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AMONG THE FARMERS.

"SPEED THE PLOW."

Correspondence on practical agricultural topics is solicited. Address all communications intended for this department to HENRY D. HAMMOND, Agricultural Editor Oxford Democrat, Paris, Me.

THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK.

Spring is opening with a more promising outlook all along the line than for several years. A careful study of the situation shows that the more hopeful feeling is well founded that prevails among farmers in every section of the country. In general terms it may be said that no surplus of farm products will be carried over from last year to depress the market for this year's crops. It is a great advantage that consumption has again caught up with production, if only for one year and because of an unfavorable season.

It is doubtful if this country will ever again see the overproduction of the last few years. The undeveloped agricultural area is now limited, while the growth of mining and manufactures in the Rocky Mountain section makes a market for far more than the agricultural products of the so-called arid region. Several interesting and very plausible calculations have recently been published showing that within five years, or at most at the end of the present decade, the United States will have to import breadstuffs to supply domestic consumption. If no extravagant irrigation works are undertaken by the Federal government, and the development of the arid regions is left to the respective States—in which case it will be gradual and healthy—we may look for a constantly increasing improvement in the demand and prices for all farm products.

Every farmer also knows the great benefit of having a new season open with activity in all lines of general business, with fair prices and quick sales for staple crops. This gives confidence in trade, and stimulates consumption or liberal living among the people. This increased consumption, with a steady growth of population, practically insures a fair return for the crops of 1891.

This conclusion is of course based on a right system of farming. Such a system is founded on a diversification of products, so as to supply home markets and the farmer's family with all the small products, such as vegetables, fruits, butter, cheese, eggs and light meats. That a large area now devoted to staple crops can be profitably put into stuff of this kind is at last generally recognized. The majority of farmers who have grown our great staples have usually done little or nothing in raising family supplies, and have sold wheat or cotton, corn or hogs, at low prices while buying family supplies at the high rates charged in country stores. This policy has done much to hinder the habits of thrift that hasten the payment of debts—habits that have such an important influence in improving the farmers' condition.

Another very gratifying feature of the situation is the disposition to fully appreciate the importance of agriculture in its relation to the country's general prosperity. This is the immediate and in one sense the most important fruit of the farmers' movement. The public has only to actively comprehend the extent to which it depends upon agriculture to be enlisted in all fair and reasonable efforts for the farmers' improvement. This idea of winning the support and cooperation of the general public should be kept in view by our farmers' organizations. Demands so radical as to alienate public sympathy should be restrained until matters of more immediate importance and general utility are made right.—American Agriculturist.

THE PIG PEN.

If you want your pigs to do well, do not overfeed, but at the same time give them a variety and a plenty of good, nutritious food, so as to keep them growing right along. There must be no stops or breaks in their growth, but a continuous stretching out and expansion from their first meal to their last.

The long, lean, lank and rangy sow is more likely to make a good breeder and mother than the snug-built and comely proportioned one. The brood sow should not be a nervous, uneasy and restless creature, but quiet, kind and fond of being petted. Such an one is likely to be a kind and generous mother.

Pigs that are given plenty of good food to eat and sufficient variety to satisfy the cravings of the system will be contented and quiet and not disposed to hunt all over creation for something that they need but fail to find. The cravings of hunger make roving and enterprising pigs. In good health they will run and play, exercising as they should to build up the muscular system, quicken the heart and expand the lungs, but this is very far from a disposition to wander away on voyages of discovery.

In winter the pig needs a warm as well as a dry nest, and likes to cuddle himself down over head and ears in an abundance of straw. In summer this is not of so much consequence, but the nest should be dry and airy. It ought to have the choice of lying broadside in the sun, soaking in the warmth of its rays, or of lying in a cool shade and luxuriating like a gentleman taking his siesta. There is nothing like real comfort for the pig or anything else.

Weaning time is a tough time for pigs and all kinds of young animals. To prepare them for this, not only let them eat with the mother sow from the same trough, but prepare a side pen for them where they can be fed dainties in a clean trough and get so they will draw the principal part of their living from this source. When the time comes to wean them, call them all into the side pen, away from the sow, by feeding them, and then quietly shut the passage between the two pens, and you have the little fellows in a pen to which they have already become wonted. Then if you can let them have the run of a piece of nice clover, you will not hear much complaining from them.—Mirror and Farmer.

STRAWS.

Neither rain nor snow makes hay more relishable to stock.

Variety is necessary to nourish all parts of the system.

Feed the mother sow well, if you would have the pigs grow.

Apples enough were raised last year to feed the codling moth.

Hornless cattle do not throw down fences with their horns.

Manure is often wasted by being put where it is not needed.

Grass seed cannot be sown too early after the snow leaves.

Uncooked fruit eaten at each meal is said to be healthful.

Water is water the world over, but it is often full of foulness.

Boiled potatoes and wheat bran make a good mash for pigs.

If you can't have shade trees in your pastures, build open sheds.

Milk and cheese carry off the fertility of the soil, butter but little.

Now is generally the best time to do a thing. Delays are dangerous.

A tap root may be a good thing on dry soil but it is not needed on wet.

If muddy, sponge off your horse's legs before leaving it in the stall.

The farmer lives rent free and may have garden "sass" thrown in.

What shall the farmer do? Every one must decide that for himself.

Only the smooth, hard sorts of peas should be planted very early.

THE AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

FARMERS' PRODUCTS TAKE MOST OF THE MONEY.—THE TROTTERS PAY THEIR WAY AND FURNISH MUCH OF THE FUNDS TO PAY THE CATTLE PREMIUMS.

The criticisms which have recently appeared regarding the present management of agricultural fairs can hardlly fail of forming very erroneous impressions in the minds of persons not conversant with the actual facts. They would naturally infer that the agricultural societies, especially the larger ones, are rapidly abandoning the purposes for which they were organized—the promotion of agricultural prosperity—and are perverting the bounty of the State in encouraging horse-racing and in providing circus attractions while the farmer, looking on in disgust, sees the money intended for his benefit paid to jockeys and fakirs.

Such accusations are not novel in character—it is still somewhat fashionable, though the costly experience gained in the last few years has rather chilled the enthusiasm, to clamor for Simonpure cattle shows and to charge that the fairs, as now conducted, do not result in much benefit to the farming community. As a matter of fact the societies never put forth greater exertions nor accomplished more in the line of well directed aid to the farmer than at the present time. And it is through these very efforts to enlarge the scope of the work that the societies open themselves to ill-considered criticism, coming oftentimes from those lacking experience in the management of fairs, and who do not, therefore appreciate the

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED.

It is easy enough when theorizing or moralizing on the proper management of fairs to level up to the loftiest ideals of ethical conduct, for if any feature seems likely to lower in the slightest degree our high standards, we have only to cast it aside, and its rejection never, in theory, interferes with the financial success. All theories are financial successes.

But those whose ideas on the management of fairs have been shaped by the lessons learned while personally conducting them, will tell us that the wisdom of every move must be determined to a great extent by the effect upon the gate receipts. While it is not true that the most successful fair is the one making the most money, it is substantially true that a fair which is not a financial success, is practically a failure.

It is generally agreed that if agricultural societies do any good work, it is found in the stimulus to the breeding of better stock, the cultivation of better fruits, vegetables and grains, afforded by the judicious distribution of prizes as rewards to those who will exhibit something of unusual excellence. When a method is discovered whereby successful exhibitions can be held without involving a large outlay in premiums and other necessary expenditures, or whereby the required sums can be obtained without the aid of ticket sellers, an entirely new face will be put upon the subject, but meanwhile the practical question asked by fair managers will continue to be—can we add this feature or subtract that and pay our bills? It would be not only

THE HEIGHT OF BUSINESS FOLLY,

but reprehensible from every point of view for the management to offer premiums without providing by all reasonable and proper means for their payment.

The public cannot be compelled, but must be persuaded to attend fairs and it has been pretty thoroughly demonstrated that something more than an exhibit of live stock and vegetables, however excellent, must be provided to insure receipts sufficient to pay the premiums. What shall this something be? It must be something lively and amusing or exciting in nature. Something which people will hurrah about more or less, and especially something that can be well advertised beforehand and which people will think about, talk about and wish to see about. If it was sufficient to attract those particularly interested in such matters — the enthusiasts — perhaps it would not be necessary to look beyond a fine display of agricultural products with perhaps a

COOKING SCHOOL ATTACHMENT;

but in truth it is necessary to cater to those of all occupations and tastes. This is especially true of those societies located near cities or large towns.

Now the trotting horse has been found to be one of the best paying attractions. Well contested races interest nearly everybody. They fill the grounds and crowd the grand stand and yet cost very little, for the entrance fees, usually ten per cent of the purse, oftentimes aggregate more than the purses offered, thus leaving an actual profit without counting in the gate or grand stand receipts. The great bulk of the premiums paid is paid to farmers for cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, vegetables, etc., exhibits upon which no entrance fee is usually charged, therefore the entire sum thus paid must come from the gate receipts. Exhibitors and others who talk so glibly about the fair being "all horse trot" do not seem to realize that the large prizes awarded in other departments could not be paid were it not that the "trotters" not only pay their own way but furnish to a considerable extent the money used to pay other premiums.

Many persons are not aware of the small amount actually

DRAWN OUT BY THE TROTTING

men above the entr nce fees paid in by them, and do not stop to consider the difference between offering two thousand dollars in premiums on farm products and the same amount in trotting purses. In the former case the society must furnish the entire amount, in the latter the contestants furnish the larger part.

It is as far as possible from the truth, indeed it would be difficult to frame a more absurd and laughable exaggeration than to say that the cow or any other farm exhibit is crowded into a corner while the jockeys and fakirs reign supreme; on the contrary the farmers and their exhibits receive their full share of attention and consideration and about all the money.

New breeds of cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, different varieties of fruits and vegetables are constantly calling for recognition and the pressure upon fair managers to extend the premium list is constant and intense.

In case a society is fortunate enough to possess a surplus after

SETTLING THE CLAIMS AGAINST IT

the officers at once plan for better accommodations for exhibitors and larger and more numerous premiums. Novel attractions are sought for, not as an end but as a means. They draw the crowd and the crowd pays the premiums.

Nor is it easy to appreciate the force of the objection to making the day of the fair a local holiday. It would seem rather exceedingly desirable and appropriate and a just recognition of the leading position held by the farmer in our political economy that the day which places on exhibition the best results of agricultural science should be publicly recognized and an opportunity offered for all to attend and share in the benefits and pleasures.

For various reasons it may not be best to continue the bounty paid to societies, but it is absurd to allege as a reason for its discontinuance that it is used as an "amusement fund," rather than for the "promotion of agriculture," when the fact is that the amount received from the State together with a great deal more obtained from those attracted by the amusements, is consumed in paying the premiums which must be paid to induce the farmers to show their products.—Cor. New England Farmer.

Properly educate the boys and girls for the farm and they will like it. Working in the dark is what discourages them.

THE DIAMOND BUTTON

FROM THE DIARY OF A LAWYER AND THE NOTE BOOK OF A REPORTER.

By BARCLAY NORTH.

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CHAPTER XXI.

TOM MEETS WITH A CRUSHER.

THE satisfaction with which Tom reviewed his work was mixed with wonder that Fountain should have been so easily and rapidly trapped.

He marveled that the police authorities had not seen that the obvious thing to do was to discover at once where the clothes worn by the murderer were purchased.

It was true, he admitted, that he had had an advantage in determining who the purchaser was, through Holbrook's acquaintance with Flora Ashgrove, but why had not the detectives of the regular force found out, as he had done, where the clothes had been bought?

He was in high glee over his discovery, and much pleased with himself. The facts were indisputable, and were to be recognized at a glance.

There was the conversation between Flora and Fountain on the veranda at Newport, and there was the identification of Fountain with the man who had purchased the one suit which had not been bought by the U. S. T's. While these were not conclusive, still they were sufficient to justify the immediate arrest of Fountain, when the facts necessary for proofs before the jury could be easily brought out by judicious inquiry.

To construct the chain of evidence which would convict Fountain in court was work for the authorities, not for him. He had detected the criminal, and that was all that could be demanded of him, and all that he had set out to do.

It was thus filled with triumph that he sought Holbrook to consult with him as to the next step—the placing of all the facts before the district attorney. To his surprise no less than to his indignation, he found the lawyer loath to go further in the matter.

So long as there was a question of doubt involved in the investigation, Holbrook had been earnest and energetic, but now, when all question of doubt had vanished—when the identification was complete—he hesitated, "baulked," as Tom said, "right at the finish."

The fact that Flora Ashgrove would be inevitably drawn into the matter disturbed Holbrook greatly. While all the tenderness with which he had formerly regarded her was wholly dissipated, still it seemed a horrible thing to him that she should be dragged to the witness stand and compelled to give the evidence which would send to the gallows the man she had shown she so deeply, and even wildly, loved. He shrank from the idea that he should be instrumental in putting her in such a position.

With these sentiments Tom could not, or at least would not, sympathize. It might be hard for her, but it was hard also for Annie Templeton that her brother should be struck down and killed, and it was one of the inevitable consequences of crime that the innocent suffered no less than the guilty, and while it was unfortunate that Miss Ashgrove was in the position in which she was, yet justice must be done.

To all of this argument Holbrook had no reply, and he realized he could make none. In the end, however, he gave a reluctant consent that everything should be laid before the district attorney, but he positively refused to go with Tom to that official. If he appeared at all in the matter, it should only be as an unwilling witness, to tell how his suspicions of Fountain had been aroused, and he sincerely hoped that even that much would not be required of him. So Tom was compelled to go alone. On his way he dismissed Holbrook's scruples as fanciful to the last degree, and busied himself with the order of the narrative which he was to submit to the prosecuting officer.

On entering the office he saw the door of the private room was closed, and he was about to send in his card, when a voice called out from an adjoining room:

"Hallo, Tom! Come in. Where have you been this month of Sundays?"

Tom passed into the room and saw an assistant of the district attorney, in the center of a group of his fellow deputies."

"Is the chief engaged," asked Tom after salutations.

"Yes," was the reply, "but only for a short time. Come in; I was just telling the boys some of my adventures while yachting. We were out in Teddy Braham's yacht—only a small party, Jack Hanshaw, Fred Cox, Harry Fountain and myself."

"Who? Fountain?"

"Yes, Harry Fountain. Do you know him? A fine fellow."

"What Fountain?" asked Tom, somewhat interested; "Fountain of the Union and the Lambs—athlete?"

"The same. Why?"

"Oh, nothing particular. When was this?"

"Oh, let me see. We were out the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th of last month. We went on board the 14th at night, and sailed early the next morning."

"Of August," said Tom, with sudden alarm. "Hold on; where were you on the 17th?"

"We ran into Greenport bay, about 9 o'clock at night, under the brightest moon"——

"You are sure of that date?" queried Tom earnestly.

"Why, yes. Certainly. What's the matter with you?"

"This is important. You've made no mistake?"

"Mistake, no. Here's my diary with the entry. See," and he held it up for Tom to read.

"For heaven's sake!" cried Tom, "let us get this straight. When did that murder in Union square occur?"

"Ask Jim there; it's his case."

"You mean Templeton's?" asked the one referred to. "On the morning of the eighteenth, an hour after midnight."

"Great heavens!" cried Tom.

They all stared at him.

He took the photographs out of his pocket and handed them to the first speaker.

"Was this the man—the Fountain who was with you?"

"The very same. These are good pictures of him?"

"Was he never away from you during the trip?"

"Never, from the time he joined us on the fourteenth."

Tom stood like one rooted to the spot. In the meantime the others looked upon him amazed. Finally Tom said:

"I do not think I want to see the district attorney after all."

He turned on his heel without a word and walked out, leaving them wondering at his strange manner and questions.

"He's been drinking," he heard one say.

"One would suppose he thought Fountain had committed that murder," from another.

He paid no heed, but passed on and descended the stairs like one who had met with a distressful blow of misfortune.

He walked along the street dazed, unheedful of all about him. Without knowing just how he had gotten there he found himself in Broadway, opposite the postoffice.

His emotions were difficult to analyze. Heartfelt gratitude and thankfulness that the story had been told him before he had gone in to the district attorney possessed him, but dominating every other sentiment was his feeling of keen and bitter disappointment. His quest had ended in failure, his triumph had turned to ashes.

He made his way hurriedly to Holbrook. The lawyer was engaged with a client, and Tom paced the outer office in a fever of disappointment, thankfulness, humiliation and even anger. How could he have been such an idiot as to have supposed Fountain could have been guilty of such a crime? he asked himself, and then in the most illogical way he found himself growing angry with Fountain for going off on that yachting trip, and thus making it impossible for him to have committed the deed.

Unable to contain himself longer, he sent his card, on which was scribbled "Important. All the fat's in the fire," to Holbrook.

Holbrook came out immediately.

He looked wonderingly at Tom, who bore the visible traces of his crushing defeat.

"What's the matter, man?" asked Holbrook.

"Harry Fountain didn't commit the murder."

Holbrook could not have suppressed his surprise if he had desired, nor his evident relief at the information.

That increased Tom's bitterness.

"Why?" asked Holbrook. "Do they know who did it?"

"No."

"How do you know, then, that he didn't?"

"He was not within a hundred miles of Union square when the deed was done."

Holbrook told him to wait a moment and he would dismiss his client at once. This he did speedily, and calling Tom in made him tell all that had occurred.

There was silence at the conclusion.

After a moment Tom said:

"We are just where we were ten days ago. We've been on a false scent."

"No," said Holbrook, "not quite. There is the motive we reasoned out this morning. We must now follow up the Pierson inquiry."

"Until we get near the finish, when I suppose you'll baulk again," replied Tom bitterly.

Holbrook laughed.

"Be reasonable, Tom. You know it was a hard thing to bring Flora Ashgrove into the matter, and I am sincerely glad she is out of it."

"Unless," said Tom, "Fountain hired some one to do it."

"Oh, dismiss that idea," replied Holbrook. "Our suspicions of Fountain were caused wholly from our belief that Flora thought Fountain had himself done the deed. If her manner and words did not mean this, they meant nothing. So, the 'handsome Flora' herself has been on a wrong scent."

"But she didn't think so without there was a reason for it."

"You're right there, Tom. Now what was that reason?"

"To find that out would put us on the right track again. By Jove, Holbrook, I've an idea."

"Let us have it, then."

"See. The Ashgrove girl thinks Fountain did the murder. She hasn't told him of her belief, nor won't—you remember the conversation. Now, she still labors under that belief. You can go to her and earn her undying gratitude by disabusing her mind of that error."

"Well, what then?"

"In her joy at finding that the object of her love is not a guilty man, she will tell you her reason for supposing he was."

"You have an idea, Tom."

"Yes, and besides, she'll tell you who was the owner of the diamond button."

"Surely. But she is still in Newport."

"No," said Tom, "I saw in this morning's papers that the Witherspoons have returned to the city."

"Then I'll go to her this very day."

"Do. And while you are on that line I'll seek out Fountain, tell him my former suspicions, and ask his assistance in our effort."

"He won't talk to you."

"Well, I can try all the same."

Having agreed to this plan, and appointed a place of meeting, they parted.

CHAPTER XXII.

ANOTHER VISIT TO THE "HANDSOME FLORA."

FROM the manner in which Flora had received him on the night he had met her at the Casino, Holbrook had no reason to suppose his visit would be met with much cordiality.

Therefore, when the servant returned after he had presented his card, with the information that the lady was not at home, he was not surprised or disconcerted.

"If that means," he said to the servant, "that Miss Ashgrove is denying herself to visitors this afternoon, please say to the lady that Mr. Holbrook calls upon business of the utmost importance and of unusual interest to her."

The servant went away a second time, leaving him seated in the reception room, and returned to say that the lady would see him in a few moments.

He did not wait long, for Flora, still in morning toilet, followed the servant closely. She was cold and haughty in the extreme, but none the less wearied and anxious.

She saluted Mr. Holbrook, and without waiting for a return, she said to the servant:

"I am not at home to any other callers, no matter who they may be."

She closed the door after her, and sat down in such a position that the light was upon Holbrook's face, while her own was in the shadow. She waited for Holbrook to speak, turning upon him with a polite look of inquiry.

Her manner conveyed that the call was to be regarded as one purely of business.

Holbrook felt it, and was stung by her manner. Upon her part she felt that the blow she dreaded so much was about to fall.

Holbrook accepted the situation, feeling that in the end he must win.

"I beg you will excuse my urgency," he began, "but necessity knows no law of etiquette or custom. The last time I had the honor of calling upon you, the conversation was wholly, if my memory serves me, upon the then recent murder of Mr. Templeton. I desire to renew it."

Flora visibly paled under this exordium. She replied:

"The subject is not an agreeable one, but I suppose you have a purpose in renewing it."

"I have, and also a confession to make."

"A confession!" she repeated in surprise.

"Yes, a confession. From your manner and from your words at that time, and subsequently from your manner at the Casino, where I met you some days afterwards, I arrived at the conclusion that you suspected Mr. Fountain of having committed the murder."

"The dreaded blow has fallen," she thought, as she gasped out, her face ghastly white, "but you did not know him; he told me so."

"I learned who he was that night at the Casino," he replied calmly.

"I feared so," she said, with a low moan. "And yet he went to you the next morning. Fool, fool, fool, that he was!"

"That conclusion," continued Holbrook, conscious he was torturing her as a cat does a mouse, "was strengthened by the report of an interview between yourself and Mr. Fountain on the veranda of your uncle's house at Newport."

She sprang to her feet, nerved by the strong tide of anger and contempt that swept over her.

"And were you low enough, base enough, to spy upon us, or to place a spy upon us?"

Holbrook was struck with her great beauty as she stood before him, burning with scorn, and he admired her.

"No, Miss Ashgrove," he replied, quietly, "you wrong me. You are mistaken in both conjectures. I neither spied on you nor placed one on you. The report came to me in my professional capacity, after it was all over, and without my knowledge that Mr. Fountain was being followed and watched. This, I say, confirmed the suspicions and strengthened my conclusions, but I desire to say to you now that both of us have been wrong. I hasten to inform you that Mr. Fountain did not commit the deed."

"Did not!" The revulsion of feeling was too great. She sank back in her chair, and for a moment Holbrook thought she would swoon.

He started up hastily to go to her assistance, but she waved him back, and after a supreme effort regained control of herself.

"How—he is innocent?"

"Yes, innocent. He was not within a hundred miles of Union square when the deed was done."

"And why do you come to me with all this?"

Having repossessed herself, she took refuge in haughtiness, while her manner was an assumption of extreme indifference.

She made Holbrook angry, and it was with difficulty he could control himself.

"You will pardon me, Miss Ashgrove, I hope, if I remark that your tone and manner are particularly offensive to me, and neither wise nor just. It is far from my purpose to descend so low as to threaten a lady, but prudence should suggest to you that it is not wise to show such contempt, whatever you may feel, toward a man who is in possession of such knowledge as you know I am."

"And pray, what may that be?"

"That you love the man Fountain with a strong, powerful love—a love which excites my respect and admiration; that the object of that love is a man who bears a name by sufferance only, not by right; and that even when you believed him to be a murderer you shed the bright light of your love upon him."

"How do you know these things?"

"They come to me professionally—I am the legal adviser of the dead Templeton's mother and sister."

"Mother and sister!" she exclaimed. "I thought he had neither mother nor sister—nor any relative."

"That is strange, since he was a relative of yours—a remote one."

Flora blushed.

"That was a fib, Mr. Holbrook, I freely confess it; I confess also in the game of wits I am beaten. Though I am not pleased that you know so much."

"Be not alarmed. But one other person possesses these facts, and you can rest assured neither he nor I have any desire to use the knowledge thus obtained to your disadvantage or to that of Mr. Fountain."

"Thank you. But may I not ask what your purpose is in telling me these things?"

"I might fall back on the statement," replied Holbrook smiling, "that having a feeling of regard for you I desired to relieve your mind of unjust suspicion against one you love so well and the entertaining of which must have given you so much torture; but such statement would not be the whole truth, for I have another purpose as well, not an entirely unselfish one."

"And that purpose is?"

"Let me explain. The fact of Mr. Fountain's innocence came out incidentally in the pursuit of certain inquiries and the proposed initiation of some actions touching the murder of Mr. Templeton, and perhaps it may be said also in an effort, feeble as yet, to connect the late Mr. Templeton with the late Mr. Pierson. I shall be very frank—brutally so, I fear, Miss Ashgrove. The fact that you suspected Mr. Fountain of the murder of Mr. Templeton—that Mr. Fountain had remarked, with reference to an enterprise he was engaged upon, that Providence had removed Mr. Templeton from his path, and the final fact that that enterprise was made known to me by Mr. Fountain's call upon me, to be an effort to obtain the late Mr. Pierson's property, shows that in some way, unknown to me, Mr. Templeton was connected with Mr. Pierson, and the interests of Mr. Fountain and Mr. Templeton were antagonistic. I have the audacity to ask you in what way Mr. Fountain touched Mr. Pierson, and how it was that Mr. Templeton's interests were antagonistic to those of Mr. Fountain? In that point lay your reason for accusing in your mind Mr. Fountain of the deed."

"May I ask to what use you would put the information were I to give it to you—always presuming I had such information?"

"I believe I had the honor of informing you that I am the legal adviser of Mrs. and Miss Templeton. The interests of the brother are now the interests of the mother and sister."

Flora showed clearly that the knowledge of the existence of a mother and sister of Templeton was not pleasant to her, and she remained in profound thought for a moment or two.

Holbrook waited patiently for her to speak. Finally she said:

"Mr. Holbrook, I shall not conceal from you that I know the relationship you ask to be informed of. In the brief time I've had to consider I have made up my mind that I cannot speak of it, for I cannot explain it without giving you secrets I have no right to give to a third person without the consent of Mr. Fountain—they are his—they belong to him and concern him only. You have reasoned most accurately. Therein lay the reason of my unjust suspicion of Mr. Fountain; the motive was so strong, and he himself felt the bitterness and disappointment of finding Mr. Templeton in his way so much, that I feared in a moment of passion he had been led into a frightful crime. I must, however, decline to answer your question."

Holbrook bowed courteously and remarked:

"Of course, that sends me to Mr. Fountain."

"If Mr. Fountain determines to inform you, I, of course, can offer no objection."

"Perhaps you may find yourself able to answer another question?"

Flora seemed to give him consent by an inquiring expression of face.

"You will perhaps remember," he continued, "that on the occasion of our previous interview in this house I displayed a diamond button. I had found that morning at the place of murder."

"Perfectly well."

"You seemed to recognize it then. May I ask to whom you thought it belonged?"

"So," said the lady laughingly, but partly vexed as well, "your display of the button was a trap laid for me?"

"I confess it. Laid on the impulse of the moment."

"I have no objections to tell you. I had seen a similar one worn by Kendrick Noble."

"Ah!"

"He was very proud of it, as he had inherited it from his grandfather, who had received it from an Italian nobleman in whose family it had been for many generations. It was given the grandfather in recognition of some great service rendered. Concerning Mr. Noble I presume you know quite as much as I do. He is but little more than an acquaintance, a young gentleman of our set."

"What earthly connection can he have with the matter that puzzles me so?"

"That is for your astuteness to discover," replied the lady, not without the suspicion of sarcasm in her tones. "I cannot help you in that matter."

At this point Holbrook rose to take his leave, and as he did so Miss Ashgrove, rising with him, said:

"I fear an apology is due you. But surely you will excuse a woman seeking to protect her secrets?"

Holbrook began to feel ashamed of himself under the gentle dignity of her apology, and felt it almost a rebuke; so he replied:

"The apologies should be mine for having performed a delicate task with much awkwardness and little kindness."

Thus, with a better understanding between them than had existed since their first interview, and perhaps than ever before, they parted after a warm grasp of the hand.

(To be continued.)

Written for the Oxford Democrat.

AFTER THE STORM.

The storm is over, with folded wings
Each downy flake has sunk to rest,
So softly piled above all things
Like death's pale, cold, white-shrouded breast.

In skies of blue the sun a glow
Through fleecy clouds plows his bright way,
And pours his light down o'er the snow
In many a brightly glittering ray.

Far off the mountain tops I see,
Snow capped, through beams of shimmering light,
And every leafless forest tree,
In stockinged feet of purest white.

Dark evergreens rise here and there,
Snow-sprinkled now, with starry gleam,
Like beauty's gem-decked robing where
The sunlight pours its mellow stream.

No sound comes to me on the air
That fans my cheek with cooling breath,
But silence solemn everywhere,
Still as the mystery of death.

Yet breezes of the mountains high
Will soon be trooping downward here,
With voices weird, with moan and sigh,
And hollow echoes sad and drear.

The snow which now a white robe lies,
On nature's bosom gently cast,
Anon in blinding clouds shall rise,
When smitten by the furious blast.

In gully and in tangled glen,
O'er wooded heights, through valleys low,
In wastes afar from haunts of men,
Will whirl the wreaths of wind swept snow.

On lonely road and mountain path,
And in the busy thoroughfare,
Impartial in its blinding wrath,
A raging tempest everywhere.

And everywhere will snow-drifts lie,
In field and road, by doorway cast,
White mounds and hillocks heaped on high
By snowsprites of the northern blast.

N. S. BAKER.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

What is there more attractive to one who has time, money and health sufficient for the undertaking than a stay in this metropolis of New England, of days, weeks or months as convenience permits? All persons whatever their tastes, can find here ample means for their gratification.

The numerous churches, with the many eloquent preachers, always invite the serious minded to their Sunday services and offer an occasional treat when such men as Lyman Abbott and Dr. Taylor of New York are the speakers. The four o'clock services at Trinity, and the Vespers at Arlington Street (Brooke Herford's) at the same hour, fill those spacious churches; while on week days Joseph Cook has large audiences at Tremont Temple on Monday, and the noon services at St. Paul's during Lent, and the Wednesday noon prayer meeting at King's Chapel, attract the business men. But above all, the unequaled evangelist draws immense crowds to Tremont Temple at noon, four days in the week, filling that vast hall till there is scarcely standing room, impressing many hitherto careless minds and hearts.

Courses of lectures are progressing at Channing Hall, by eminent Unitarian divines, and the American Institute of Biblical Literature are giving two courses at the Y. M. C. A. Hall, one by different speakers, and the other by Prof. Harper of Yale, who has just accepted the Presidency of the University of Chicago, and the regular system of lectures and entertainments of the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. M. C. U. afford opportunity for instruction and amusement to the throng of homeless young men in the city. Besides all these, the different courses of Lowell Institute lectures attract the students and scientific, and the Star Course at Tremont Temple has been very popular. All this for improvement of morals, mind and heart.

In the line of amusement merely the theatres and cheaper shows advertise thrilling plots and startling spectacles, which nightly fill their seats, and I omitted to state among the Sunday services, that Phillips Brooks and other eminent preachers address large congregations on Sunday evenings in these popular places of resort. Several theatrical stars are advertised, and Bernhardt will soon be here, but no standard drama has been on the boards since Booth's engagement in December.

In addition to these, there are occasional concerts, lectures and entertainments, for personal profit and charitable objects occurring in such profusion that it is often difficult to decide where to go. Stanley, Stepniak, Mad. de Plongeon, have come and gone, the Sabbath and Woman Suffrage conventions, Dr. McGlynn, and the Silver Bill have attracted their audiences, and each presents a new programme from which one can select instruction or pleasure.

The Cyclorama of Gettysburg has given place to one of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, to which is added a museum of curiosities collected by Rev. Selah Merrill, once consul at Jerusalem. It is well worth visiting, but will not draw the crowds as did the Battle of Gettysburg.

The Chautauquans of the city and vicinity observed "Founder's Day" by their annual dinner at the U. S. Hotel. The company was, of course composed of those interested in "Lakeview," although some representatives of the Maine Union were there and presented the attractions of "Martha's Grove." If such gatherings could be held in different localities in Maine, greater interest would be aroused in our annual assembly.

GOLD WATCH CONTEST.

We propose to give a gold watch to the Oxford County girl under twenty years old who gets the most votes before Saturday, March 28th, at six o'clock in the afternoon.

We shall print a coupon in each issue of the Democrat during this contest which when cut out and returned to the Democrat Office will count *one* in the contest.

We shall also allow *twenty votes* for each and every dollar received on subscription from anybody whether old or new subscriber.

FIRST PRIZE.

The girl having the largest number of votes to her credit at the close of the contest on Saturday, March 28th at six o'clock will receive a handsome solid gold watch.

The prize watch is now on exhibition in the show window of Pierce's jewelry store, I. O. O. F. Block, South Paris. Everybody is invited to go and see it. It is of solid 14 k gold, hunting case, stem wind and set, Elgin movement, and the cases are very richly engraved.

SECOND PRIZE.

The girl having the second largest number of votes at the close of the contest will receive a string of solid gold beads.

THIRD PRIZE.

**The girl having the third largest number of votes at the close of the contest

ESTABLISHED 1822.

The Oxford Democrat.

ISSUED TUESDAYS.

PARIS, MAINE, MARCH 17, 1891.

ATWOOD & FORBES,

Editors and Proprietors.

GEORGE M. ATWOOD. A. E. FORBES.

TERMS:—$1.50 a year if paid strictly in advance. Otherwise $2.00 a year. Single copies 4 cents.

ADVERTISEMENTS:—All legal advertisements are given three consecutive insertions for $1.50 per inch in length of column. Special contracts made with local, transient and yearly advertisers.

JOB PRINTING:—New type, fast presses, steam power, experienced workmen and low prices combine to make this department of our business complete and popular.

SINGLE COPIES.

Single Copies of the Democrat are four cents each. They will be mailed on receipt of price by the publishers or for the convenience of patrons single copies of each issue have been placed on sale at the following places in the County:

South Paris,	Gerry's Drug Store.
	Shurtleff's Drug Store.
Norway,	Noyes' Drug Store.
Buckfield,	E. F. Atwood, Postmaster.
Dixfield,	Frank S. Harlow, Postmaster.
Fryeburg,	A. F. Lewis, Insurance office.
Bethel,	Wiley's Drug Store.
West Paris,	H. E. Andrews.
Rumford,	J. H. Wardwell, Postmaster.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Sheriff's Sale.
Sheriff's Sale.
Statement Fidelity and Casualty Co.
Statement People's Fire Insurance Co.
Subscription Books.
Samples by Mail.
Sheriff's Sale.
Dairy and Stock Farm for Sale.
Statement German American Insurance Co.
Employment.

OUR VALUATION.

The Valuation Commission last week finished its labors and reported to the Legislature. The whole number of polls in the State is reported as 172,799, as against 160,569 in 1880, an increase of 12,230. The total valuation of the State is given as follows:

Estates,	$289,795,022
Wild lands and public lots,	19,374,079
Total,	$309,129,101

The valuation ten years ago was $235,978,716, therefore an increase is shown of $73,150,385 for the decade.

The valuation of Oxford County is given as follows:

	1891	1881
Albany,	$ 139,029	$ 139,859
Andover,	192,892	175,096
Bethel,	738,596	792,067
Brownfield,	252,346	319,966
Buckfield,	367,398	377,891
Byron,	39,000	39,187
Canton,	367,098	436,589
Denmark,	305,185	296,392
Dixfield,	526,205	506,602
Fryeburg,	796,325	841,264
Gilead,	72,304	145,451
Grafton,	25,857	70,354
Greenwood,	149,673	141,917
Hanover,	64,124	82,828
Hartford,	300,975	290,327
Hebron,	160,115	194,429
Hiram,	395,116	355,451
Lovell,	305,022	291,298
Mason,	27,446	29,108
Mexico,	191,618	165,982
Newry,	90,302	100,045
Norway,	600,963	1,181,797
Oxford,	483,246	457,128
Paris,	985,274	1,267,100
Peru,	247,180	267,240
Porter,	279,359	292,035
Roxbury,	25,203	28,992
Rumford,	351,119	302,104
Stow,	129,202	120,717
Stoneham,	68,281	66,451
Sumner,	310,985	273,963
Sweden,	159,496	155,062
Upton,	42,795	61,404
Waterford,	338,987	312,047
Woodstock,	406,233	411,320
Milton,	40,006	36,120
	$9,791,306	
Estates,		10,000,540
Wild lands,		875,194
Public lots,		18,794
		$11,504,519

RECAPITULATION BY COUNTIES—1891.

County	Polls.	Estates.	Wild lands.	Public lots.	Total.
Androscoggin,	12,272	$ 10,300,336			$ 10,300,336
Cumberland,	18,158	63,093,572	$ 5,366,954	$ 115,845	68,576,371
Franklin,	4,711	4,305,055	1,069,459	34,365	5,408,879
Hancock,	10,836	11,334,802	790,444	15,139	12,140,385
Kennebec,	15,003	15,354,845			15,354,845
Knox,	8,905	11,664,140			11,664,140
Lincoln,	7,336	7,806,145			7,806,145
Oxford,	10,695	11,504,519			11,504,519
Penobscot,	21,905	17,961,794	1,027,675	56,355	19,045,824
Piscataquis,	4,516	3,356,340	4,961,239	38,080	8,355,659
Sagadahoc,	7,411	11,304,796	3,312,711	1,132,261	15,749,768
Somerset,	10,849	17,011,555			17,011,555
Waldo,	10,429	9,961,905			9,961,905
Washington,	12,372	10,551,961	19,179,318	$415,506	$30,130,785
York,	21,799	$ 30,553,905			$ 30,553,905
Totals for state,	172,799				

THE LEGISLATURE.

The majority report of the judiciary committee, favoring the Australian ballot bill, was defeated in the Maine House of Representatives Thursday 71 to 74. This may end the matter for this session, but there is thought to be a majority in favor of the bill in the Senate, and an effort will be made by the friends of the bill to get it through.

The legislative apportionment decided upon by the committee gives Oxford for the next decade two Senators, as at present, but only six Representatives, a loss of one. This makes a new classification of the towns necessary.

Final action has not been taken thus far on any of the most important measures before the Legislature, and it is thought that the session must last three weeks longer.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

JOHN F. STANLEY, REGISTER.

CANTON.

J. F. Gilbean to A. Conburier,	$ 200

DIXFIELD.

W. S. Newman to G. L. Smith et al,	1800
A. C. Denison to J. S. Harlow,	325

FRANKLIN PLANTATION.

G. B. Staples to G. C. Wing,	500

HARTFORD.

O. F. Bradford et al to A. G. Staples,	1100

HEBRON.

A. G. Staples to O. F. Bradford et al,	1000

NORWAY.

B. Warren to J. M. Warren,	1300
J. A. Bolster to E. E. Bennett,	150
E. E. Bennett to J. A. Bolster,	200
S. S. Dutton to C. B. Cummings et al,	100
F. Young to L. B. Jordan,	1

OXFORD.

O. Tracy to A. K. Richmond,	200

PARIS.

C. Davis to C. L. Marston,	1
G. Clark to W. Boehler,	325
H. W. Frost to W. E. Cushman,	37
D. F. Foster to same,	112
H. Fobes to A. B. Swett,	1000
G. A. Wilson to J. B. Kimball,	3100

ROXBURY.

P. M. Edmunds to E. F. Holsclaw,	450

Physical culture! What is physical culture? The present aim and the certain result of this new "fad" include the attainment of good health and a fine form; and a fine form outranks a pretty face in the popular estimate of physical beauty. Who is not willing to make some effort for such a desirable attainment? It is not so difficult, after all,—if you only know how, and if you want to know how you may learn from the April number of Demorest's Family Magazine, which contains a splendid article on "Physical Culture," by Prof. E. B. Warman, A. M., giving a course of exercises, profusely illustrated, which will help everybody—man, woman or child—to acquire a graceful, supple form without going to a gymnasium, or even spending a cent for apparatus. Published by W. Jennings Demorest, 15 East 14th Street, New York.

Houlton gave the Canadian Pacific road about 1000 tons of freight last week, a weight equal to the average two days' haul on the main line of that road in Maine from Holebtown to Vanceboro. It consisted of seven cars of hay, seven of lumber, thirty-seven of potatoes, twenty miscellaneous, two of extract, three of shingles, five of leather, four of starch and one each of horses, cattle and laths. The total was eighty-eight cars outward, of four full trains, such as require two locomotives each to lift from the Bangor station to the Hermon grade.

SOUTH PARIS.

Be at the New Hall to-night.

Day and night are of equal length Friday.

Bert Millett is doing some good work at his shop.

Our schools commenced to-day.

Streets are rough round the village.

Sheriff Stone seized twelve quart bottles of Old Kentucky Bourbon whiskey at the station last Thursday.

A good crowd attended the entertainment last Saturday night. Wherever the Norway minstrel troupe go they give great satisfaction.

Judge Wilson came home sick from Augusta.

As Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Merrill and Ida Bonney were riding in Market Square Tuesday night, the sleigh dropping into a hole threw Mr. and Mrs. Merrill out, but Ida staid in the sleigh and rode to Mack's harness shop where the horse floundered in the snow and was caught. Mrs. Merrill and Ida escaped unhurt, but Mr. Merrill was very lame Sunday.

Frank Libby is unable to work.

Freeland Cummings cut his right hand severely Thursday while splitting wood. Dr. Woodbury dressed the wound.

Work is starting up in the foundry.

We are pleased to learn that J. D. Williams is meeting with good success in the employ of the Deering Mowing Machine Company. He is now traveling in Indiana.

C. L. Blood and Laurin Whitman have returned from several weeks' visiting in Massachusetts.

J. W. Parsons is home from the West. He is to return and take his family with him soon. He will sell his household furniture at public auction next Saturday at one o'clock at W. R. Howe's.

Advertised letters are J. P. Abbott, Robert Walker and George H. Tucker.

It has been a good week to sell rubbers and dealers are selling at low figures.

Don't go without your local paper. 25 cents gives it to you on trial for three months.

If we read the signs aright we are to have the ballot law; if not this year the next legislature will pass it. Not much interest is manifested in it by our citizens of either party.

Conductor S. Stowe has been at home two weeks suffering from a bronchial trouble.

The Grangers have voted to improve their dining hall by laying a new floor, painting and some other improvements.

Dr. G. B. Andrews' wife of Auburn is spending a few weeks with his parents.

Leander S. Swan was elected school agent in District No. 3 Saturday night.

Oxford County Pomona Grange will meet here April 7th. The following is the Programme:

Music, Choir.
Address of Welcome, Sister H. E. Carter.
Response.
Music, Choir.
Poem, Sister E. M. Curtis.
Music.
Poem, Brother A. H. Andrews.
Recitation, S. F. Jackson.
Reading, Rev. A. P. Wedge.
Question, Can farming be made as profitable to-day as it was 50 years ago? Discussion opened by Bro. L. S. Swan.

Georgie Wilson is ready to return to Hebron Monday, but Allie Williams will have to stay at home another week. His sickness makes him look rather poorly.

The boys say we are to have a base ball nine the coming season. Play good ball and you will get a good patronage.

Thede Thayer can talk horse with the best of them, and when it comes to trotting, his new mare Flossie can show you a half on the ice in 1:15.

J. J. Morton was able to resume work Thursday.

Mt. Mica Lodge conferred the third degree on two candidates Thursday evening.

Business is good at Mack's harness shop.

It is said that nearly $250,000 per year is paid out in South Paris and Norway for flour, grain and feed, which goes directly to the West.

Representative Hersey and several of his collegues visited our village last Thursday.

The Andrews House is having a large number of guests.

The speaker to-night is one of the ablest. Don't fail to hear him.

The L. T. L. will give a concert at the Methodist church, Sunday afternoon, March 22nd.

A few first class Light Brahma Cockerels for sale. Enquire of S. Richards.

Mr. L. W. Watson, of Lebanon, N. H., is in town in the interests of the United States Mercantile Association, the object of which is the mutual protection of its members from deadbeat customers, secured by a systematic and efficient method of keeping them posted on the class and reducing their losses by bad debts to a minimum. The association, which was organized in 1882 and incorporated in 1884, consists of many thousand members, both in the United States and Canada. The names of persons failing to respond to the copyrighted dunning letters showing the power the member has to expose them to other business men, are printed in a record issued quarterly which is mailed to all members of the association for their further guidance, all names appearing in the record being considered as dead beats. Many persons of doubtful credit will pay a bill, however old it may be, for the sake of remaining unknown to other dealers and documentary evidence shows the collection of accounts of ten, fifteen and even twenty years' standing. During the past eight years millions of dollars have been recovered by means of this system, which the members frankly acknowledge could not have been reached in any other way. Many in adjoining towns are having remarkable success collecting poor accounts with the aid of this system.

THE WEEK IN MAINE.

THE MOST IMPORTANT STATE NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD.

Samuel Lovejoy of Rockland, aged 74, fell and struck his head, and died from the effects of the accident.

An old man named John Moore was struck by the Flying Yankee at Waterville and killed almost instantly.

Frank Hodsdon, of Saco, about thirty years of age and unmarried, fell on a stove in a fit and was frightfully burned. He is in a critical condition.

A young man jumped from a train in Bangor, and fell under the wheels, several cars running over him. There is little chance of his recovery.

Andrew Finnegan, of Bangor, fell through a showcase in a saloon and received a bad cut in the nack of his head. He bled freely, nearly bleeding to death before assistance was rendered. He may recover.

Some wormy peas by accident got into the soup pot at the jail at Auburn and a little rebellion was the result. After it was started, there were some indications that it was to be continued, but prompt treatment brought the insurgents to terms.

E. G. Lindsey, a traveling salesman, shot himself at the Preble House, Portland, Saturday, the 7th. The cause of his trouble is said to be the recently fashionable game of "pitch," at which he had lost not only all his own money, but some belonging to the firm for which he traveled.

The case of the State vs. the Grand Trunk Railway Company will be argued in the United States Supreme Court about the middle of April. This is the case growing out of the refusal of the Grand Trunk to pay taxes to the State of Maine. Attorney General Littlefield will appear for the State. A. A. Strout will probably represent the railroad company.

Dr. Charles Fuller of Lincoln is charged with receiving bribes from applicants for pensions. He is one of the most prominent residents of the town, and special examiner for the United States pension department. It is alleged that Dr. Fuller, who was appointed under the Cleveland administration, has agreed with certain pensioners, in case he passed favorably upon their claims for increase of pensions, to receive $5 for each dollar increase; that is, should a man now getting $8 per month pension have the amount raised to $12 per month, Fuller should be paid $20.

When the Congress of Washerwomen meet it is thought they will recommend the universal use of Brussels soap.

NORWAY.

Norway Grange had an all-day affair at their hall Wednesday. Dinner was served and an excellent programme carried out, consisting of literary exercises. In the evening all joined in a social dance.

The Norway Minstrels gave an entertainment at West Paris Wednesday evening to a crowded house. They returned on the morning train.

There will be a special convocation of Union Royal Arch Chapter Wednesday evening, the 18th. Work, R. A. Degree.

G. M. Packard is having her store newly painted and papered.

Deputy Sheriff E. F. Stone of South Paris has brought in another lot of the ardent and caused it to be libelled. It rather looks as though he meant business with the wicked.

At the last meeting of Rustfield Lodge of Good Templars, they voted to adopt the competition system. Grand Chief Templar Webber was present and took part in the exercises of the evening.

The new lodge of New England Order of Protection was instituted in this village Wednesday evening, the 11th, by E. W. Webber of North Windham, Me. The present membership is twenty, with good prospect for more. The officers who will be installed Wednesday evening, the 18th, by Dr. Charles H. Burr of Newton, Mass., are:

Past Warden, A. D. True.
Warden, G. J. Brown.
Vice-Warden, Susan Brown.
F. Sec., F. E. Williams.
Sec., Mrs. Orin Holden.
Treas., F. N. Barker, M. D.
Chap., Mrs. Nellie A. Jewett.
Guide, Orin Holden.
Guard, C. DeCoster.
Sent., Chas. Libby.
Trustees, F. N. Barker, Benj. Bacon, Jr. and J. M. Millett.

The lodge will be known as Lake Side, No. 176.

Mrs. Charles F. Ridlon is spending a week in Saco.

Silas D. Andrews and William H. Whitcomb are putting in a system of water works at Oscontee, Wis.

E. Rowe, who clerked for S. N. Buck for some time, is at work for J. C. Bennett & Co., driving the meat cart.

Lanty O'Neil has been granted a pension. Lanty has been at work for it for a long time and we congratulate him.

Freeland Bolster has bought out the undertaker business of his father and will hereafter run the business himself.

In the year which closed Wednesday, the 11th, Postmaster L. L. Bartlett, besides paying all expenses of the office, turned over to the government the largest annual amount of any Norway postmaster—$2025.31.

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the Ladies' Universalist Circle:

Pres., Sophia Davis.
Vice-Pres., Mrs. E. F. Bicknell.
Sec., E. A. Favor.
Treas., Mrs. F. A. Danforth.
Door Keepers, E. F. Bicknell, Mrs. F. A. Danforth.

Rev. C. E. Angell is taking a two weeks' vacation in Philadelphia.

The citizens of this place were painfully shocked Monday afternoon by the announcement that Norway's honored townsman, Newell A. Trafton, was dead. A few knew that he had returned from Augusta sick, but none realized that his condition was dangerous. Only a little more than a week from the strength and pride of manhood to the grave. It is supposed he contracted typhoid fever at Augusta. Some eight years ago he moved from his native town, Harrison, to this village. For years he was engaged in the cattle business and lumber operations with A. F. Andrews, J. M. Philbrook and McIntire & Johnson. Last fall he was elected to represent this district in the House of Representatives. In this capacity as in all others in which his active life called him, he honestly and earnestly worked, winning many friends. He was twice married. His first wife was the daughter of Dr. Dunnell of Harrison. By this marriage he had three children, Mabel, Homer and Alice. For his second wife, he married Hattie Libby of Portland. He was a member of Oxford Lodge, No. 18, F. & A. M., Harrison Lodge, I. O. O. F., Norway Commandery, U. O. G. C. He carried $5500 life insurance. The funeral services were held at the Congregational church Thursday morning at 10 A. M., Rev. B. S. Rideout officiating. He was buried with Masonic honors by Oxford Lodge, F. & A. M. Masonic services were held at the church and in the afternoon at the grave in Harrison where the remains were interred. Representatives from Norway Lodge and Harrison Lodge, I. O. O. F., acted as escort. At Harrison a large company from Crooked River Lodge, F. & A. M., joined Oxford Lodge and participated in the services at the grave. The floral offerings were elaborate. The most beautiful piece was from Augusta, inscribed "House of Representatives, 1891." The legislative committee, composed of the following gentlemen attended the funeral:

O. H. Hersey, Buckfield.
Horace Mitchell, Kittery.
Isaac Hussey, North Berwick.
C. L. Hathaway, Passadumkeag.
H. H. Allen, Denmark.
Dr. J. J. Sewell, Monroe.
F. Russell, Alfred.
G. H. Cummings, Harrison.
A. J. Libby, Baileyville.
G. S. Fuller, Hallowell.
D. H. Gilchrist, Vinalhaven.

State Treasurer G. L. Beal accompanied the delegates. Mr. Trafton was forty-seven years of age, a staunch Republican, an upright, fair-minded business man, a good neighbor, a kind father and husband and withal an honest man.

The Norway Granite Co. have received an order for 30,000 linear feet of curbing from Chicago parties. Work will be commenced in the quarry as early as possible.

JOHN'S LETTER.

It was written and printed 450 cords. You made a mistake of 100 cords, friend Albany. That gives 30 cords to the acre as you have been accustomed to estimate it.

When I sold out here that heap of dressing passed away with the farm, so the law says. I was to occupy till May. Have been feeding out my hay to my stock. Does the law persist in saying that the aforesaid dressing, which was all made on my farm, belongs to another party? I wish some lawyer, doctor, minister or layman would make it clear as mud to me why the article under consideration should be counted the property of another. I told the fellow who is breathing peacefully around my domicile down yonder that he might occupy till I came, in welcome, with the understanding that he should not rip off the clapboards on the north side of the house for kindlings, and not even on the south side except in a case of necessity. He has hauled some hay on the place and has been feeding it out to his own stock. He is a stickler for dressing and justice, and he contends that he ought to have both. Exactly. We don't hanker for what doesn't really belong to us. No matter what the law says. Cart it away tenderly, my boy. But I should really like to know whether it makes any difference in the eye of the law whether the hay was cut on or off the farm. Who will tell me?

It would not be at all surprising if your gifted scribe of South Billingstone is correct in his surmise that one Grover, whose surname is Cleveland, has dreamed in his philosophy that he can lead, guide and persuade the grand old Guard of Democracy and Personal Liberty to accept and act on a sound principle just once—for a change. Is it a fact that Grover is breaking down mentally? Well, the grand old Guard can furnish mice for the Republican cat to hunt and possibly catch.

My thanks are due Mrs. Greene of Washington, D. C. for copies of the Voice and the Woman's Tribune. Am glad to see a movement for the suppression of the liquor traffic in Africa. Hunting the tiger in Africa. Hunting the mouse in America. Humanity is on the move. The millennium is sure to come.

Let your moderation be known, Uncle Dow. The club is heavy enough here in Maine to knock the most pig-headed sensible, if you only use it early and often.

Wonder if our Legislators will be favorable to the idea of furnishing us with postage stamps at a reasonable discount. They ought to be cheap if a surfeit has aught to do with the price of articles.

JOHN.

It's economical—Brussels soap.

BOOMING ALONG

IN FIRST POSITION IS SOUTH PARIS WHILE WEST PARIS PROCEEDS WITH MODERATION.

And the Hill Candidates Continue Numerous and Popular and Retain Complete Monopoly of Third to Eighth Positions.

The voting goes briskly on, the only changes being in third, fourth and the lesser positions. Miss Angie Lovejoy's friends again increase her lead for the gold watch, placing her three hundred and eighteen votes ahead of Miss Ridlon.

Next week's issue of the Democrat will contain the last coupons in this contest so if you have any idea of buying single copies it is time to be placing your order. All orders are kept strictly confidential by the publishers.

THE VOTE.

The votes received up to Saturday night give the following result:

Angie Lovejoy, South Paris,	1090
Dora M. Ridlon, West Paris,	772
Hattie May Perkins, Paris,	502
Linda B. Rawson, Paris,	345
Caro P. Thayer, Paris,	298
Eva A. Murch, Paris,	297
Mary S. Andrews, Paris,	256
Minnie J. Garland, Paris,	239
Blanche Spring, Hiram,	185
Laura Zilla Dean, Buckfield,	163
Winnie A. Willis, Paris,	137
Emma S. Abbott, Byron,	132
Ina L. Twitchell, Paris,	143
Gertrude O. Gardner, Buckfield,	125
Mary A. Newell, Paris,	122
Mina E. Tyler, Mason,	111
Nellie B. Walker, Stow,	110
Sadie L. Tainter, Dixfield,	94
Eva May Barrows, Hebron,	91
Dazie W. Cushman, Hebron,	89
Retta Whitman, Paris,	85
Fannie Hubbard, Lovell,	75
Myrtie A. Bacon, Woodstock,	63
Louie Briggs, South Paris,	49
Mabel L. Chase, South Paris,	49
Bertha Poor, Andover,	43
Mercy E. Millett, Norway,	36
Lulu Rankine, Hiram,	31
Dora E. Curtis, South Paris,	31
Minnie Swasey, Canton,	30
Annie L. Merrill, Mason,	29
Rena Hastings, Andover,	24
Edith Berry, West Sumner,	23
Abbie Record, Buckfield,	20
Maud L. Walker, Bethel,	15
May L. Pitkett, Bethel,	14
Mabel E. Ricker, West Paris,	13
Rose L. Hersey, South Paris,	12
Sadie B. Maxim, Buckfield,	10
Ina L. Parlin, West Peru,	8
Maude Haynes, Bethel,	7
Grace A. Thayer, Paris,	6
Nellie V. Huskress, Hiram,	6
Josie Stearns, Paris,	6
Temple Chase, Buckfield,	6
Jennie P. Baker, Norway,	6
Fannie C. Sewall, East Sumner,	5
Grace E. Bonnges, Hebron,	4
June Leavitt, Norway,	4
Lillian Kimball, East Bethel,	3
Jennie E. Tirrell, South Paris,	3
Mattie D. Tracy, North Norway,	3
Alice Flannery, Sweden,	3
Blanche Bradbury, Norway Lake,	3
Julia B. Holman, Dixfield,	2
Sadie L. Blake, South Paris,	2
Minnie Dorr, Mexico,	2
Flora I. Jackins, North Norway,	2
Bernice Richardson, Upton,	2
Marion W. Jones, South Paris,	2
Nellie F. Whitemore, Paris,	2
Emma F. Austin, Denmark,	2
Alice Hicks, South Paris,	2
Annie Littlehale, North Newry,	2
Amy Heald, East Sumner,	2
Pearl F. Ladd, Dixfield,	2
F. Bertha Perry, South Paris,	2
Eva M. Robinson, South Paris,	2

OBITUARY.

SILVANUS POOR.

Mr. Silvanus Poor, who died in Andover, February 27, 1891, was born in that town February 23, 1805. He was the eldest son and second child of Silvanus Poor, who moved to Andover from Andover, Mass., in 1799, and was married to Mary, daughter of Ezekiel Merrill, in 1801. Mr. Merrill, who was a native of Newbury, Mass., moved to Andover, Maine, in 1789, the year of the formation of the Federal Government, being the first settler of that town. He was one of the purchasers of the township, then a vast wilderness and a favorite hunting ground of the Indians, and was the leading spirit in its settlement.

Mr. Silvanus Poor, the subject of this notice, succeeded his father on the old homestead, on the premises originally taken up by the latter near the centre of the town, and there lived without interruption to the day of his death. His life consequently covers the greater part of the existence of Andover as a town. In its affairs he was a leading figure, and always foremost in every enterprise and good work. He was always on the right side of every question and thoroughly in earnest in the maintenance of good order, good morals, in the support of the institutions of religion, of schools and in the promotion of temperance. He never tasted ardent spirits or used tobacco, nor, for the last sixty years of his life, tea or coffee, and in consequence maintained his mental and physical vigor almost to the last. He was always a leader in organizations for the cultivation of music, of mental improvement and social pleasures, and for the ornamentation and advancement of the town. He was, from genuine sympathy, the most hospitable of men, and the first to find out and relieve want and distress. The interest he took in affairs of all kinds and his wide experience in life, particularly in the pioneer period, with his simplicity and earnestness of character, rendered him an agreeable and instructive companion, especially to those visiting Andover, who often filled his spacious house. In his departure an old landmark is removed, for his life largely belonged to a period that has passed away.

Mr. Poor was often an officer in town affairs. He was for a long time Justice of the Peace, and in 1808 represented the town in the State Legislature. He was twice married, first, January 22, 1834, to Eliza Fox Brown of Gray, sister of the late John B. Brown of Portland. By her he had ten children, seven sons and three daughters, of these eight survive. His eldest son was killed at Petersburg in the war of the rebellion. Two others served in the war, one of them as Lieutenant Colonel. His second wife was Mrs. Lovicey Chipman who died in December, 1888.

NEWELL A. TRAFTON.

Newell A. Trafton, a member of the present State Legislature of this district, died at his residence on Paris St. last Monday afternoon. He had been sick some eleven days with typhoid fever probably contracted while attending the legislature. He came home from Augusta on account of sickness, February 27th, but it was not supposed that he was seriously ill until a day or so before his death, in fact many of the people were not aware of his dangerous illness until the announcement of his death.

Mr. Trafton was born in Harrison, where he resided until about eight years ago he moved to Norway. He has followed the business of a cattle broker for many years, being at one time associated with Charles Stuart of Bolster's Mills, and for some 15 years with A. F. Andrews of this town, and for the last few years with J. M. Philbrook of Bethel. He also was the senior member of the firm of Trafton, McIntire & Co., dealers and contractors in poplar wood and they operated extensively on Crooked River and the Saco River and its tributaries.

Last fall he was elected to represent the towns of Norway, Oxford and Hebron in the lower branch of the Legislature, and was appointed by the Speaker a member of the committee on Interior Waters and proved to be one of its ablest members. His influence has been felt on many measures affecting the interests of his constituents. This tribute comes from his late associates at Augusta: "He was a man of positive views but of uniformly courteous demeanor and his loss is severely felt."

Mr. Trafton was a successful business man and had the respect and esteem of his business associates and the men with whom he dealt. By his death we lose a good citizen, an enterprising, stirring business man and the Republican party a consistent and faithful worker.

Mr. Trafton was married twice. His first wife, a daughter of Dr. Dunnell of Harrison, died some five or six years ago, and by this marriage he had three children, Mabel, Homer and Alice. His second marriage was with Miss Hattie Libby of Portland.

Mr. Trafton was a member of Oxford Lodge of Free Masons, and of the fraternity of Odd Fellows, and was at the head of Norway Commandery, U. O. G. C. He was insured in the U. O. G. C. for $2,000; Northwestern, $1,000; Odd Fellows' Relief, $1,500 and Masonic Relief $1,000.—Oxford County Advertiser.

W. P. Thompson, late Democratic candidate for Governor, was elected mayor of Belfast last Monday.

Our readers were surprised to see us wearing a clean shirt to-day. Brussels soap was what we washed it with.

A BOUNTY

Of two cents a pound will be paid next year to all maple sugar makers who make five hundred pounds or more. This year is the time to get ready for it. Tin plate is lower than it will be for three years, the new tariff going into effect this year. Sap buckets are lower than they will be for some time, perhaps years, so now is the time to buy. Buckets, spouts and covers on hand or made to order at once. The covers for sap buckets are the best thing for saving time and work I know of. Covers to fit any tin bucket, 85 a hundred. Call and examine. Syrup cans at wholesale prices.

WM. C. LEAVITT.
Next Elm House, Norway, Me.

SOMETHING WORTH HAVING.

This week the Dana Sarsaparilla Company sends to the head of every family in the State (excepting in places of over 5000 inhabitants, where they distribute through Agents) a package containing Three Papers, that are veritable works of art, containing Prize Poems, Acrostics, Drawings, etc., and over Fifty Genuine Testimonials of the most wonderful cures ever wrought; nothing like these Papers were ever sent out for free distribution before. Call at the post office and get the one sent you, or you will miss a present worth having.

He Yelled Kemp's Balsam.

I yell "Take Kemp's Balsam, the best cough cure" I always do when I hear a man cough, and I can't help it. It saved me and it will cure you. I was threatened with pneumonia last winter and it broke it up. It helps the children out when their throats are sore, cures their coughs, and tasts so good. The first dose helps you. So writes A. R. Arnold, engineer on the West Shore Ry., at Canajoharie, N. Y.

BORN.

In Fryeburg Academy Grant, March 6, to the wife of Henry Stiles, a daughter.

In Paris, Feb. 11, to the wife of Millard Stevens a son.

In West Peru, March 2, to the wife of Herbert Lunt, a son.

In South Bethel, March 9, to the wife of A. S. King, a son.

In Grafton, March 7, to the wife of S. P. Davis, a son.

MARRIED.

In Sweden, Feb. 25, William Marr and Lillian A. Nevers.

In Denmark, March 1, Maynard Wentworth and Alta Allen.

In East Waterford, March 9, by Rev. J. Albert Libby, at the home of the bride, Ludwig Gerhard of Boston, and Etta Knightly of Waterford.

In Lovell, March 8, by Rev. W. D. Sandbrook, Mr. Willard A. Merrill and Miss Nettie Meader, both of Lovell.

In West Peru, March 3, by Rev. D. A. Gammon, Charles H. Ames and Alice M. Fish, both of Dixfield.

In Lovell, March 8, by Rev. J. W. Card, Mr. Willis L. McAllister and Miss Sarah E. McAllister.

DIED.

In Norway, March 7, Mrs. L. B. Weeks, aged 59 years.

In Norway, March 9, Newell A. Trafton, aged 47 years.

In Paris, March 5, Archie Clyde, son of Henry Newton, aged 11 months.

In South Bethel, March 7, Willie G., son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Abbott, aged 1 year and 8 months.

In Stow, March 2, Clarence Seavey, aged 9 years.

In Greenwood, Feb. 21, Noel G. Hicks, aged 23 years. (Corrected.)

In Fitzfield, March 2, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Bryant.

The Diamond Button

ONLY THOSE Stories are worth reading in which the interest is kept up and not allowed to lag. Variety Romance, and Energy are requisites in a Serial. All these desirable qualities are found in prominent degree in THE DETECTIVE STORY,

"THE DIAMOND BUTTON,"

Now Running in this Paper. READ IT.

EMPLOYMENT selling Nursery Stock in New England

For Reliable MEN.

Work Steady. Salary or Commission. No Delay. APPLY FOR SITUATION.

H. G. CHASE & CO.,
23 Pemberton Square, BOSTON, MASS.

Dr. Giosicnor's Bell-cap-sic PLASTER.

Gives quick relief from pain. Rheumatism, neuralgia, pleurisy and lumbago cured at once. Genuine 1-2 in 3 in. Druggists.

BOILING WATER OR MILK

EPPS'S

GRATEFUL-COMFORTING.

COCOA

LABELLED 1-2 LB. TINS ONLY.

STATE OF MAINE.

OXFORD, ss.

TAKEN on execution, and will be sold by public auction, on the tenth day of April, A. D. 1891, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at the office of Herrick & Park, in Bethel, in said county of Oxford, all the right in equity which Edgar Harriman, of Gilead, in said county, had on the twenty-second day of November, A. D. 1890, at eight o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, when the same was attached on the original writ, to redeem the following described mortgaged real estate situated in said Gilead, to wit:—a certain piece or parcel of land bounded and described as follows, viz: commencing at the southeast corner of land conveyed by deed from the Adams heirs to the inhabitants of said town of Gilead, thence easterly on street leading past the town house in said Gilead six rods to a stake and stones; thence northerly six rods; thence northwesterly two rods to a stake and stones; thence westerly five rods to the east line of the town house lot, so known; thence south on said town house lot line to the first mentioned bound, being the same land conveyed to said Harrison by said Adams heirs by deed dated Dec. 12th, 1865.

Also one other piece or parcel of land situate in said Gilead, bounded and described as follows, to wit: beginning at a pine stump standing at the northwest corner of lot No. 2, in the 13th range of lots in said Gilead, thence east one hundred rods; thence south sixty-one rods; thence northwesterly by the old boundary as established by Milan Bennett and Andrew Gammon, forty-six rods; thence westerly seventeen rods; thence south fifty-five degrees west sixty rods; thence north to the first mentioned bound, being the same real estate conveyed to said Edgar Harriman by Perley B. Heath by deed dated March 9th, A. D. 1889, and recorded in Oxford County registry of deeds, book 211, page 433.

March 9th, 1891.

CYRUS M. WORMELL,
Deputy Sheriff.

STATEMENT

OF THE CONDITION OF THE

German American Insurance Co.

Of New York.

Jan. 1, 1891.

Par Value.	Description.	Market Value.
$1,102,784.	United States, New York City and Brooklyn City bonds,	$1,248,923 00
150,000.	St. Louis, Atlanta and Nashville City bonds,	137,500 00
1,477,000.	Railroad bonds,	1,000,300 00
1,052,350.	Railroad stocks,	1,401,678 00
99,175	New York City Bank stocks,	114,305 00
130,000.	" " " Gas Company stocks,	130,300 00
50,000.	Standard Oil Trust stock,	30,000 00
20,000.	Pullman's Palace Car Company stock,	36,000 00
100,000.	Western Union Telegraph Company stock,	76,750 00
	Cash in Banks, Trusts and offices,	205,675 72
	Premiums in course of collection,	268,200 84
	Aggregate Assets,	$5,599,993 56

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock,	$1,000,000 00
Re-insurance reserve,	2,042,118 65
Losses unadjusted and unpaid,	197,292 26
Sundry Liabilities,	63,925 90
Total Liabilities,	3,303,334 81
Net Surplus,	2,296,658 75
	$5,599,993 56

OFFICERS.

E. Oelbermann, Pres., John W. Murray, Vice Pres. James A. Sliver, 2d Vice Pres. and Secy.
George T. Patterson, 3d Vice Pres.
Assistant Secretary of the Local Department, A. H. THORBURN.
Assistant Secretaries of the Agency Department, W. S. NEWELL. F. E. RASOR.

SAMPLES BY MAIL

Dry and Fancy Goods.

Strictly One Price.

Write to

The Oxford Democrat.

"ON THE HILL."

DIRECTORY.

First Baptist Church: Rev. A. P. Wedge, Pastor. Preaching every Sunday at 11 A. M. Sunday School at 12 M. Sabbath Evening Service at 7 P. M. Prayer Meetings Thursday Evenings at 7:00 P. M.

Universalist Church: Rev. G. G. Hamilton, supply. Sunday School every Sunday at 2 P. M. Preaching service at 3, on the following Sundays: March 1, 15, 29.

Rev. Mr. Hamilton, who could not get here two weeks ago, was here Sunday, and preached to a good congregation.

A. F. Mason, Esq., for many years and under various administrations the postmaster at North Buckfield, made the Democrat a pleasant call last week.

Mr. Haselton receives the thanks of the Hilltop Minstrels for complimentary tickets to the entertainment of the Norway Minstrels at South Paris Saturday night. It was a good investment, for the Hilltops all went and took their families. They report a first-class show.

A handsome new chandelier, purchased with the proceeds of recent entertainments, has been placed in the Universalist church. It is of brass, with six Rochester burners. Four side lamps to correspond are placed upon the walls, and when all are lighted, the church is well illuminated.

The Paris Social Circle will meet at the vestry Wednesday evening. At half-past seven an entertainment will be given, consisting of music by the Hebron Male Quartette and readings by Mrs. C. L. Buck of South Paris. Admission 10 cents. If stormy, Friday evening.

Rain, fog, wind, slush. Such was the condition of things that greeted the Hill-top Minstrels Friday night. The question of postponement was considered, but "put it through" was the general opinion. Considering the state of the weather and traveling, there was a good audience, and the program was well received.

A meeting of the Paris Hill Academy corporation is called at the academy, Tuesday evening, March 17, at 7 o'clock. The purposes of the meeting are to see what action will be taken in regard to accepting the appropriation made by the State; to see what will be done in regard to a spring term; to consider the question of increasing the number of trustees by electing three additional members of the board; and to transact any other business. This is a meeting of the corporation, but all who are interested in the future prosperity of the academy are invited and requested to be present.

The school meeting Friday afternoon was well attended. H. E. Hammond was chosen moderator, A. E. Forbes clerk, S. E. Newell agent. The agent was instructed to have the schools begin as soon as the weather and traveling are suitable. To draw out discussion, a motion was made that the agent make arrangements with the trustees of the academy so as to have the schools as far as possible under one management. The discussion showed that it was the general sense of the meeting that such arrangements should be made, but it was thought best to wait until something definite was known about the future of the academy, and the motion was withdrawn.

Written for the Oxford Democrat.

YES, SIR!

IN REPLY TO "WILL YOU? WON'T YOU?"

Oh, John, you're an impudent fellow,
Yet your jestings the people do sting;
And I will say, "Yes, Sir!" and mean it,
If you'll let me go under your wing.
And as spring is a good time for weddings
Just ha 'e yo' and purchase a ring.

But stop, while I ask a small question,
Is there room 'neath that shelter for two?
There's the dear old mother of yours, John;—
To her you must ever prove true,
And I'll not crowd her aside
To say "Yes, Sir!" not even for you.

Many years to you she's been faithful,
Always kind hearted and just;
Should I enter with you in life's battle
Why, you're taking a stranger on trust.
Who perhaps would be "tried and found wanting,"
For the whole of mankind sprang from dust.

But if you have love for us both, John,
We will help the dear mother along
Tenderly over life's pathway,
"Till she 'lists for the angels' song,
And God shall call to her softly
To join the celestial throng.

My love for you shall be steadfast—
My hands ever willing to do—
My eyes quick to notice all curious
And credit the same to you,
While the errors I'll bind away swiftly,
Never bringing them up to view.

My height? Five feet and four inches.
Complexion? Not harmed by the sun.
Disposition? Called very good, sir—
Just a little inclined to fun,
Yet if we should get into a quarrel
Why, I'll be the first to run.

My eyes? They are large and blue, sir,
My hair? As "yearly as she."
Now what do you think of this girl
Who comes without any "sir,"
But who will say "Yes Sir!" and mean it,
If you'll take her under your wing?

N. W. B.

March 11, 1891.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

At a regular communication of Fryeburg Grange, No. 297, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, In view of the loss we have sustained by the decease of our brother, Ashley Johnson, and of the still heavier loss sustained by those who were nearest and dearest to him, therefore be it

Resolved, That it is but a just tribute to the memory of the departed to say that in regretting his removal from our midst we mourn for one who was in every way worthy of our respect and regard.

Resolved, That in the death of our brother this grange laments the loss of one who was dear to us all; a citizen whose upright and noble life was a standard of emulation to his fellows.

Resolved, that the heartfelt sympathy of this grange be extended to his family in their affliction.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of the grange, a copy thereof be transmitted to the family of our deceased brother, a copy be sent to the Oxford Democrat, and a copy sent to the Maine Farmer for publication.

G. A. BRADLEY,
R. WALKER MCKEEN, } Committee
C. W. WATERHOUSE,
James Hobbs, Secretary.

PERSONAL.

Gen. J. L. Chamberlain, who now resides in New York, is reported as ill from the effects of old wounds.

Mr. John S. Barrows of Boston, son of Hon. George B. Barrows, of Fryeburg, has an interesting article in the March New England Magazine, descriptive of some old relics belonging to his family.

Gen. George L. Beal of Norway was last week re-elected State Treasurer.

THE OXFORD BEARS.

THE DOINGS OF THE WEEK IN ALL SECTIONS OF THE COUNTY.

MASON.

News rather scarce.

Weather warm and pleasant.

Maple sap running finely.

Mr. A. H. Witham had four gallons nice honey for sale to-day. Price $1 per gallon.

Snow melting very fast.

A. S. Morrill's baby was quite sick this morning.

Have had a smart rain and the meadows were entirely covered this morning. Road impassable in many places.

A. S. Bean put teams into Mason to-day, hauling birch.

NORWAY LAKE.

J. L. Partridge had a severe attack of neuralgia Wednesday, but is more comfortable at this writing.

Irvin Frost is hauling the lumber for an addition to his house to be put on this spring.

F. H. Whitman has returned from Northborough, Mass., where his wife is stopping with her daughter Mary. Mr. Whitman has the finest quarry of black granite probably in the United States.

J. Orin Smith has closed a term of 12 weeks' school at Cape Elizabeth and is at home on a short vacation.

Mr. E. F. C. Green is to build a nice house this spring.

William Buck will build a new barn this spring.

WEST PARIS.

The grammar school closed Friday. Grading this school was an experiment which has proved very satisfactory to those who have observed its workings and we hope the village will soon take steps to build a house that is better adapted to the needs of the place.

The Norway Minstrels presented a pleasing entertainment to a crowded house in this place last Wednesday evening.

Last Monday evening was stormy so the temperance meeting was postponed to Monday evening, March 23d.

The pilot engine is through working here and has returned to Portland.

C. H. Lane had an extra large trade in grain the last two days he run the grist mill.

Anyone thinking of making repairs on their buildings this spring will find a good line of room paper and paint stock at A. J. Curtis & Co.'s cash store.

Ned Packard, who has been very sick this winter, is able to be out again.

Mrs. Susie Curit and husband are visiting friends in this vicinity.

WEST SUMNER.

C. L. F. Howe has gone to his daughter's, Mrs. Cushman's at Canton, a few days since.

Our free high school is under the instruction of F. A. Robinson, commencing Tuesday, the 10th.

The remains of Prof. H. H. Bryant's child, of Pittsfield, were brought here for interment the 6th inst.

E. G. Doble came from his work canvassing in Massachusetts a week since on the sick list.

Mrs. Hiram Bisbee, of Sumner Hill, is at her father's, David Andrews', in extremely poor health.

We heartily agree with John as regards errors of the Democrat, as we have experienced a few laughable mistakes, though we cannot wonder, at the hands of others.

Mrs. Frank Barrett has recently returned from a visit of several weeks to her mother, Mrs. Benson, at North Paris.

Mrs. Cynthia Bisbee is in poor health, also Mrs. Charles Field. The other sick are improving.

The snow is rapidly settling these warm days. The traveling decidedly hard.

SWEDEN.

The many friends of Charles A. Young in this vicinity, were very sorry to hear of his very serious illness.

Frank E. Stone has been quite sick with la grippe.

Dean Andrews is quite poorly.

School meeting in District No. 2 on Monday. John Wilson was elected agent and N. O. McIntire clerk.

Letters from friends at Twin Bridges, Montana, tell us that they have had a very mild and pleasant winter, but it is so dry there and so little water in the rivers that irrigation helps very little. Unless they have considerable rain their crops the coming year will be a failure. After all New England has some advantages over the western country.

GREENWOOD.

Is there an irrevocable, immutable, unchangeable, inevitable destiny that shapes our ends, propose and plan them as we will? So we ask our humble self sometimes, but have never yet been quite ready to answer the question. In the third verse of the Universal Prayer, Pope says:

Yet gave me, in this dark estate,
To see the good from ill;
And binding nature fast in fate
Let free the human will.

But if nature is bound fast in fate how can the human will change anything even if it is free? Just see how near we came being a soldier three times, and as often missed of it. In the fall of 1851, times being hard and having no home, we resolved to hire out to Uncle Sam and try a man-of-war life for a few years; went to Boston for that express purpose, but the shipping master was absent, and so we missed our object. Then when the draft was made in the late war, there were four of us located in such a way that the other three formed the three corners of a triangle, and ourself in the centre. We were all about of an age, the other three men drafted and ourself left out. After watching the progress of the war awhile we concluded to go and help stamp the thing out, went to the recruiting officer to enlist, found him absent, and right there made up our mind that we were not born to slay or be slain on the battle-field; and ever since the war closed we have been glad we never got there. The thought of possibly having killed some one would not be a very congenial one to say the least. And now, how much fate had to do with all this we leave the reader to judge for himself.

Two zero mornings thus far in March, and the heaviest snow storm for the winter; just the kind of weather to hatch out lambs. One came along the first cold night and two the next, the three as smart and playful as they generally make 'em.

A few days ago a little three-year-old girl, belonging to Mrs. A. S. Brooks, got her arm badly scalded by her sister, two years older than herself, while trying to pour some hot water from the teakettle, preparatory to washing the dishes in her mother's absence. Look-out, mothers, for hot water where there are little children round.

This was written for last week's Democrat, but didn't get there.

HARTFORD.

At the annual town meeting the 9th inst. the following officers were elected:

Moderator, W. S. Robinson.
Clerk, M. C. Osgood.
Selectmen, J. M. Russell, Amos Purkis, Herbert Irish.
Treasurer, C. C. Fletcher.
Collector, William Hayford.
Supervisor of Schools, A. D. Park.

Appropriations were as follows: Schools, $835; support of poor, $400; roads and bridges, $2,500; town charges, $400; school books, $25; decoration of soldiers' graves, $10.

The vote for selectmen was as follows:

First	J. M. Russell,	102
	Moses Alley,	54
Second	Amos Purkis,	117
	Scattering,	3
Third	Herbert Irish,	108
	F. S. Glover,	24

Voted by check list.

EAST SUMNER.

Mrs. Etta R., wife of Alvin S. Robinson, was buried on Sunday, the 8th inst. She had been a long sufferer from that dread disease, consumption.

Several in this vicinity are sick or nearly so from what appears like bad colds.

The East Sumner Dramatic Club played the popular drama "Messmates" at the vestry on Monday evening for the benefit of the Ladies' Circle. It was well presented and the actors are entitled to many thanks for their kindness and interest in a worthy cause.

Miss Nellie Hibbard and Miss Jennie Stetson attend the normal school at Farmington this spring.

A term of free high school is in progress at West Sumner under the instruction of Fred A. Robinson. By vote of the town the fall term will be held at the north part of the town at the Morrill school house.

It is estimated that it cost over $300 to break out roads in town after the recent storm. It was the big event of the winter.

SLOCUM.

BROWNFIELD.

The snow is leaving quite fast.

Sledding is getting very bad.

Mr. Thorn, who has been dangerously sick, is improving.

There are quite a number of sick ones in the village.

J. L. Hunt has bought the R. Seavey place on Spring Street and moved to it.

News is hard and very scarce to-day.

RUMFORD.

Traveling decidedly sloppy.

Miss Emily Godwin gave a party to the little folks who enjoyed it very much. The little folks always feel at home with Miss G. especially in the school room.

Mr. Googing of Lewiston has been visiting friends here the past week.

Mrs. Tuttle, mother of our popular stage proprietors, has been spending a few days with them.

Village L. of H. met with Mrs. Ada Hutchins and had a good attendance and a good time.

Mr. Martin, our popular grocery man, reports big good. Mr. M. does a strictly cash business. Goods all A 1, all wool and a yard wide.

BETHEL.

Frank B. Frost, who until a short time ago was in trade in this village, died Thursday morning last aged about 25 years. Mr. Frost had been sick for some weeks, but his sickness was considered nothing serious until a few days before his death. It is a hard blow for his family and friends and has cast a gloom over the community.

The firemen's benefit was held at Ideal Hall on Thursday evening last, and was well attended. Supper was served from 5 to 7 o'clock. In the evening there was singing, etc. Quite a sum was realized from the sale of fancy articles. The dance, which was to be held after the evening entertainment was postponed on account of circumstances. Some $75 was realized.

Dr. George M. Twitchell was in town last week. His sister, Mrs. Irving French, has been quite sick, but is at present thought better.

Hon. E. W. Woodbury is at home from Augusta from his work on the Valuation Commission.

J. Gayton Abbott, who went to Colorado last December was called home by the death of his child last week.

At the annual meeting of the Bethel Village Corporation, the old board of officers was re-elected.

The Universalist literary club met with Mrs. A. R. Godwin on Wednesday evening last.

MIDDLE INTERVALE.

Ladies' Aid was entertained Thursday forenoon and afternoon, March 12th, by Miss Minnie Kimball. Dinner furnished, pork and beans, brown bread, doughnuts, etc. First class dinner and cook. Next circle to be with Mrs. L. P. Holt in two weeks, the 27th. Come in the forenoon, all invited.

The weather seems springlike.

A series of meetings are being led by Jones and Allen at the village. Several in this vicinity attend. All should go if possible.

Miss R. Merrow is home from Massachusetts.

Mrs. M. Jordan of Lewiston is at her old home with her mother, Mrs. Oliver, and family.

Mrs. M. Wiley is at the old homestead.

Mrs. J. H. Carter is at the Hill.

A. M. Carter is at Augusta.

E. P. K.

HIRAM.

Mrs. Llewellyn A. Wadsworth, Mrs. Frank Wadsworth, Mrs. Samuel Wadsworth, Mrs. Eugene Wadsworth, Mrs. Samuel D. Wadsworth, Mrs. Edwin R. Wadsworth, Mrs. Marshall L. Wadsworth and Mrs. Alexander Wadsworth are in ill health. There are seven more Mrs. Wadsworths to be heard from.

Mrs. Joseph D. Lord is very low.

Hon. John H. Spring remains sick with la grippe.

On Sunday morning, the 1st inst., Mrs. John P. Hubbard slipped on the floor and fractured her wrist.

Mr. Clement B. Gilpatrick has removed to New Hampshire.

Mr. George W. Hodgdon has joined the strongest party and become sick.

Mrs. Edwin R. Wadsworth has a looking glass that was owned by her grandmother's great grandmother.

Mrs. Benjamin Goodwin has lost her sight.

Capt. Charles C. Cole, a native of South Hiram, has been nominated by President Harrison as United States District Attorney for the District of Columbia. He is always on the winning side.

BRYANT'S POND.

M. P. Wheeler, of Bethel, has started a singing school here. The next meeting will be on Wednesday evening, March 18th.

Mr. R. C. Davis has just closed a fourteen weeks' term of school at Milton.

B. M. Fernald, of the firm of Fernald & Keene, corn packers at West Poland, was in town this week talking up the project of putting up a factory at this place.

D. D. Peverley will have a dedication ball at his carriage shop Tuesday evening, March 17th. Music by Bacon's Orchestra of four pieces. Floor managers, D. A. Cole, H. H. Crockett. Supper tickets 50 cents. Dance tickets 75 cents.

EAST BETHEL.

The weather begins to seem like spring and the farmers are preparing for the maple sugar season.

The last lyceum for the season was held Tuesday evening, March 10th. The question, "Resolved that a college education is better for a young man at twenty-one than a common school education and $1000," was well discussed and decided in the affirmative.

J. S. Hutchins closed a term of school in this place March 14th. This is his tenth term here and both scholars and parents unite in wishing him to teach another year.

Harry Hastings, from Kent's Hill, is spending his vacation in town. He recently visited at his uncle's, J. D. Hastings'.

NEWRY.

Since our last writing we have had a snow blockade and a rain storm, but the roads are now in very good condition for the time of year and any one that has got any teaming to do is on the road.

Foster's and Stearns' teams are hauling hard wood to the Corner for dowels.

The toters are hurrying supplies forward to the lake region in anticipation of a breaking up of the going as the spring advances.

Men are now seen on the road daily homeward bound from the logging camps.

The season has not been a prosperous one for the operators, so say all the reports.

GRAFTON.

March 3d we had the heaviest fall of snow of the winter. Twenty inches fell sure and as gloomy a set of loggers as I ever saw. It put a stop to the most of them yarding any more this winter. Some have yarded timber to haul that will keep them from one to three weeks longer.

This has been a hard winter for lumbermen but some have the hang to them and will hang on to the last.

March 7th, to the wife of S. P. Davis, a son.

John Brown's men stopped work today. Deep snow the cause.

E. I. Brown has lost one of his nice horses (Charlie.) He once paid $250 for him. His mate Bill is very sick.

J. H. and A. L. Farrar have fourteen hundred trees yarded yet to draw to the water. It will take them near three weeks to finish.

DENMARK.

Charles Blake and family, who have been at James Wentworth's, have left for their home in Lynn, Mass., where Mr. Blake will resume work at his trade of laying brick.

Capt. R. M. Stevens and Mrs. Stevens, of Alfred, who have been visiting in town, have returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. Augustus A. Pingree celebrated the thirty-fifth anniversary of their marriage last week. About seventy-five persons were present and a fine time was reported. They received many valuable presents.

A. P. Merrill was re-elected agent of Centre School District after a lively canvas. Voted to have but one teacher the summer term.

Miss Carrie Gilman has engaged to teach the summer school in District No. 1.

WEST BETHEL.

The late mild weather is a hinderance to the lumbering interest. A. S. Bean is authority for saying that this has been the hardest winter for lumbering we have had for fifteen years.

The Good Templars will give an entertainment and oyster supper at Grange Hall Friday evening, the 20th inst. The programme will commence at 8 o'clock, sharp. 25 cents pays the bills.

G. H. Brown, Esq., of Mason is handling a large amount of feed and flour, having procured the lower part of Grange Hall for a store room.

Henry Judkins has moved to Albany.

Edward Wheeler is not improving very fast, still keeping indoors.

Bad colds and sore throats are very prevalent, only about one-half of the scholars at Gould Academy being able to attend school this week.

E. G. Wheeler was called to Massachusetts last Monday by the sudden death of his sister Mary, Mrs. Nelson Lowell.

Mrs. Lottie Whitman of Worcester is convalescing quite rapidly.

ANDOVER.

At the town meeting the following appropriations were made: $700 for schools, $150 for free high school, $1250 for roads and bridges, $500 for the support of poor.

Voted to tax dogs.

Voted to allow all who would build a wire fence 25 cents per rod in places where the snow drifts.

B. L. Akers is to collect the taxes for the ensuing year for 2 1-4 cents on the dollar.

Owing to the severity of the storm the mail was detained consequently my communication did not reach you till afterwards.

Our village was thrown into a bit of excitement early Thursday morning by the sounding of the fire alarm, which proved to be the engine house of Grover's dowel mill. The night watchman A. D. Barrelle discovered fire on the roof caused by the smoke stack burning out and before he could start the pump, adjust the hose, it got such headway that it necessitated more help. Fortunately it was checked before serious damage was done. The only loss was the roof of the engine house causing the detention of business only a day or two. The hook and ladder company are deserving of special mention as they responded so *quickly?* to the call but in the hour of necessity found they had forgotten ladders, hose, buckets and pumps, consequently were compelled to retire without bearing the honors of heroic firemen.

The drama, "Past Redemption," advertised, was played to a full house the 10th, the proceeds with the dance amounting to nearly sixty dollars. It is to be repeated soon I understand with the following cast of characters:

John Maynard,	George Andrews.
Harry Maynard,	Q. A. Bridges, M. D.
Robert Thornton,	F. R. Merrill.
Tom Larcom,	Owen Lovejoy.
Nat Harlow,	J. A. French, Jr.
Hanks,	Floyd Searles.
Capt. Bragg,	A. S. Jordan.
Sub,	Tom French.
Murdock,	Charley Ripley.
Daley,	Lewis Ripley.
Mrs. Maynard,	Ida M. Jordan.
Mrs. Charity Goodall,	Mrs. Tim Hastings.
Jessie Maynard,	Minnie French.
Kitty Corum,	Rena Hastings.

The Congregational Circle meets this week with Mrs. Becky Smith.

The Rumford people advertise to come to Andover the 19th for a pleasure ride and dance in the evening.

Dr. Bridges is soon to leave here for a more lucrative field of labor. The doctor has won many friends during his short stay being a man of unimpeached principles; we bespeak for him our best wishes for his future prosperity.

Rev. Mr. Minard has closed his revival labors with the Methodist people.

J. S. Mitchell & Sons will finish their contract in two weeks if the sledding holds good that length of time. They have about 800,000 in the pond now.

Miss Ida Jordan is teaching in Byron.

Sam Clark started for Rangeley with his goods the 12th where he intends to locate.

The Methodist Circle at Mrs. Corson's the 11th was quite well attended.

At this hour (12 M. Friday) it is raining powerfully.

HEBRON.

The Ladies' Benevolent Society held an entertainment in the chapel Tuesday evening, the proceeds for the benefit of the quartette.

Prof. J. F. Moody of Auburn is spending his vacation with his mother.

On Thursday, Mr. Nathan D. Barrows of Knoxville, Tenn., with his niece, Miss Annie Goodrich of Missouri, was town calling on his old friends. Mr. Barrows is a native of Hebron and his boyhood was spent here. He received a warm welcome from his many friends.

The snow is leaving fast.

The voice of the crow has been heard in the land and some small birds have made their appearance.

Rev. Mr. Whitman of Portland addressed the students on Thursday evening. The lecture was probably the most instructive of any given for years.

Judge Bonney spent the day with us Thursday.

C.

ROXBURY.

John Reed has his barn framed and the body nearly all up. He is putting it up with only a few men. The days of old-fashioned raisings seem to be a thing of the past. They could not show out in their fullness without the jug, and the jug is not as popular as in the old times.

L. H. Reed is running his new circular saw, cutting lumber to cover John's barn.

James Irish of Peru is moving into town to the Walker farm where Mr. Weeks lives. Mrs. Weeks is Mrs. Irish's mother.

ROXBURY POND.

Benjamin Cole was found dead in his bed on the morning of Feb. 27. He has been a resident of the west part of Byron for many years and has held various town offices. He had the care of J. P. Whitney's camp at the mouth of Mosquito Brook on the Upper Richardson Lake for a number of years. Funeral services were held at the school house in District No. 5, Byron, on Sunday, March 1st.

DIXFIELD CENTRE.

At the town meeting it was voted to raise $1500 for necessary town charges, $1500 to pay town debt and interest, and $1200 in cash to repair roads and bridges, also what the law requires for the support of schools. Voted not to tax dogs or sell the town farm.

EAST WATERFORD.

Daniel Kneeland, aged 72 years, died on the town farm last week.

A town meeting is called for March 14th, to see if the town will vote to buy another road machine, also to reconsider the vote abolishing the school districts and adopting the town system of schools.

Ida M. Patterson is working at the Beals House, Norway.

O. N. Abbott is home from Massachusetts. He has been very sick with pneumonia and is not strong yet.

Sylvester York has hired with P. N. Haskell for eight months.

E. F. Haskell has gone to Newry to work for Haskell & Rolfe.

They have a new six-horse roller, containing five hundred feet of lumber, at North Waterford, of which they are justly proud. While breaking the roads after the late storm, instead of stopping at Rice's Junction, the end of their district, they continued down the Norway road, which had already been broken, but which their new roller was expected to improve. All went well until when partly over the bridge the roller proved to be the wider and it stuck fast. The horses being unable to back it, they were obliged to come to this place for horses to pull it back.

J. F. Lord of Albany was in the place Thursday.

Herbert Kilgore and Phil Bradbury of Norway Lake were here fishing Wednesday.

LOVELL.

The town at its annual meeting voted for town charges, $1000; for schools, $900; for roads and bridges, $300 in money and $1000 in labor; for repair of cemetery fence at the Centre, $100; for Memorial Day, $25.

Married, in Lovell, Sunday, March 8th, by Rev. W. D. Sandbrook, Mr. Willard A. Merrill and Miss Nettie Meader, both of Lovell.

In Lovell, March 8th, by Rev. J. W. Card, Mr. Willis L. McAllister and Miss Sarah E. McAllister.

Grand Army Post, No. 151, gave a baked bean supper at their hall on Tuesday evening.

In breaking snow a few days since Mr. J. L. Parker had one of his horses badly injured.

UPTON.

We had twenty inches of snow last week. There are now five feet of snow in the woods.

Wedding cards have been received by the friends of Winfield H. and Eva May West.

As Scott Coolidge was driving down Mill Street Monday with a wood sled the horse started to run taking the reins from the boy's hands. There were several women and children on the sled and Mrs. H. S. Chase was hurt quite badly, besides some other small injuries.

Mabel West has so far recovered from her long illness as to be able to go out to drive.

Timothy Twitchell of Milan is visiting at S. F. Bragg's.

Frank Bragg moved to his father's home Thursday.

CANTON.

N. G. Hollis and A. Packard are improving.

L. W. Smith and wife are spending a few days in Boston.

Canton Point Dramatic Club will present the drama, Millie, the Quadroon, next Tuesday evening at Union Hall.

Mrs. A. B. Parsons of South Paris visited friends here last week.

Mrs. George B. Staples visited Boston last week.

E. H. Johnson will be toll gatherer the present year at Gilbertville.

DIXFIELD.

H. O. Stanley, F. Stanley, J. S. Harlow, went to Augusta Monday.

A very large number of our village people are on the sick list; mostly from an epidemic of la grippe.

H. Randall is at home from Farmington.

It is reported that J. M. Holland and Edwin Stanley have purchased the residence of Mrs. Edmunds, just across the bridge in Mexico.

OXFORD.

The T. A. Roberts Post, G. A. R., will have a camp fire Wednesday evening.

Rev. E. W. Kennison lectures on temperance Thursday evening at the Methodist church.

William Hall of Welchville is very sick with pneumonia.

Merrill Brackett is very sick with erysipelas in the head and face.

Mrs. Leander Wardwell has had quite a serious sickness, caused by hurting her hand with a silver fork. The hand and arm have been badly swollen and very painful.

Mr. Jordan, who kept a meat shop here at one time, has moved his family to Boston, where he is employed in a market.

Young's stereopticon show of the wonders of the Yellowstone exhibits at Bumpus Hall Thursday evening.

SOUTH BUCKFIELD.

Human nature, the strangest production of nature.

The district and town systems of schools have had an interesting history in Buckfield. Six years ago at the annual meeting without a word of argument, the town adopted the town system of schools. At a special meeting held a few weeks subsequent, at which T. S. Bridgham made an able argument for the district system, it was voted to return to the district system. But the three years clause held the town for that time, although there was great dissatisfaction and the town at all times refused to raise money to purchase school houses. At a special meeting held three years ago, South Buckfield appeared for the district system, supplemented by a few remarks by N. T. Shaw and Lawyer Hersey. V. P. DeCoster and others appeared for the town system. The district system triumphed and South Buckfield was the hero of the day. This year South Buckfield appeared alone for the district system, with both lawyers, V. P. DeCoster and others for the town system. It is our candid opinion that barring the three years clause our town would in a month's time be again sailing under the district system.

We came near being floored by this question from a hard money Democrat: "How does it happen that you, who were a hard money man all through the Greenback craze, have gone astray on the silver question?" Well, my good friend, you preside and I will address the meeting and defend my position. I do not fully approve of the free coinage bill as it passed the Senate, but at the same time, I believe a monstrous wrong was done when silver was demonetized in this country. I believe in a double standard and that silver should without unnecessary delay be restored to its old time position as money. But a short time ago, comparatively, every civilized nation save Great Britain had free coinage of silver. Now it is the reverse. As a result there is little demand for silver and depreciation has naturally followed. Gold being the recognized standard and money of the world has appreciated. The single gold standard makes the dollar too large and makes the value of all property measured by it too small. If silver could be remonemonetized the world over this would be counteracted. Now don't meddle with me again or I shall try to floor you.

What a world of deceit and false pretensions! Men assume virtues they do not possess, all wool suits are sometimes sheddy, the furs we buy are dyed and counterfeited, the honest farmer is accused of putting the best apples at the ends of the barrel, the best syrups are adulterated with glucose, fair women's faces—no, we would not disclose what we know of that subject for an untaxed timber lot in Magalloway Plantation. We know that this world is just splendid if we will only look on its best side.

We regret the voluntary retirement of V. P. Decoster from the board of selectmen. Mr. DeCoster is a young man of good judgment and abilities and will be heard from later.

WILSON'S MILLS.

About 15 inches of snow fell between Tuesday and Friday, along with one of the greatest blows of the season.

March came in like a lion, but spring must come sometime.

J. W. Clark has been quite sick and Guy Brooks is carrying the mail at present.

D. O. Boone and E. L. Bennett came out of the woods the first of the week.

W. W. Linnell is sick and D. O. Boone is driving his team.

Perley Flint has gone to work with a pair of horses for Payson Rich, hauling timber from yard.

ALBANY.

Newton C. Moore's youngest child was buried Wednesday, age about six months. It had been a sufferer most of its life. This is the first death in a family of fourteen children. The thirteen living children were present at the funeral, an unusual sight. Rev. B. V. Davis of Mason officiated.

Many of our people are sick, embracing the old and young.

Dr. Twaddle was at the Corner Wednesday.

Hiram Robbins continues very sick.

Ladies' Circle met with Mrs. Wallace B. Cummings Thursday.

Simon Grover who has been at work in Berlin, N. H., this winter, has come home. Two of his boys remain there. He reports wages very good there.

J. J. McAllister got one of his oxen very badly cut in the woods and was obliged to take him to a blacksmith shop and put him in the sling to have the wound sewed up. A. G. Bean performed the operation.

Frank Upton is in town for a few days.

Stephen Libby is at home.

Lumbermen are yet doing good business in the woods.

March came in with quite a bluster. Hope the last days will be better.

NORTH-WEST BETHEL.

Herman Skillings has returned from Boston.

Maude Verrill has been up from Norway on a visit to friends here.

Miss Bertha Grover has closed her school and gone to her home.

Leon Verrill and John Tyler are at Burlington, Vt., attending a medical college—here's to their success—"honor to whom honor is due."

Dr. Davis of South Paris was at this place the 9th.

George Stearns and Charlie Verrill went to New Hampshire a few days ago, where they intended working in a birch mill. When only a few miles from their destination, they met the crew coming out as the mill was in ashes.

Mrs. Eva Chapman's little daughter, Helen Julia, is up from Portland stopping at her grandfather's, Albion Chapman's.

South Buckfield's latest reminds me that about five miles from Cork in the Emerald Isle is a building famous in song and story as *Blarney* Castle and—

"There is a stone there
That whoever kisses
Oh! he never misses
To grow eloquent,
And as such he is—
To be let alone!
Don't hope to hinder him,
Or to to bewitter him,
Sure he's a pilgrim
From the *Blarney* stone."

Can it be that S. B. has been to "Erin far away," and pressed his lips to the magic stone, thereby infusing into his tongue that bit of "blarney" with which he made us smile last week? Don't think he'd have said it—only "distance lends enchantment." Ha! ha!

BUCKFIELD.

Mrs. R. C. Bradford of Portland is in town visiting her mother, Mrs. Dr. Bridgham.

Mrs. Benjamin Spaulding was called to Damariscotta last week to attend the funeral of Mrs. Parsons, the widow of her brother, the late Dr. Charles Parsons.

New Haven, Conn., parties purchased four or five horses here last week.

Moses B. Thomes and wife visited their friends in this vicinity in the early part of last week.

Gilbert Tilton sold his residence last Thursday to Dr. J. F. DeCoster. Mr. Tilton is thinking of moving to Massachusetts.

William Gregg of the Pines Stock Farm, Andover, Maine, was in town Thursday and Friday of last week.

Lorenzo Atwood is quite seriously ill at the residence of his son-in-law, Capt. C. H. Prince.

Mrs. F. A. Warren and Dr. Wm. P. Bridgham on High Street are upon the sick list at the present writing.

Dea. Henry Bangs died last Friday afternoon after an illness of about ten days, aged 79 years. Deacon Bangs was a native of Barnstable on Cape Cod, Mass., and a tanner by trade. Thirty-seven years ago he married for his second wife Miss Livonia Farrar, sister of Mrs. Clara Marcelle Green and eldest daughter of Dea. David Farrar. He has resided here thirteen years, respected by all, serving the office of deacon well, and will be a loss to the Baptist church in this community. The funeral services were held at the church Sunday forenoon, the pastor, Rev. B. F. Lawrence, officiating. The remains were conveyed to Randolph, Mass., Monday for interment.

Miss Blanche Dingley of Auburn, who has recently returned from Berlin, Germany, where she has been studying music under one of the great masters, is desirous of organizing a class of piano pupils in Buckfield. Those interested should address Miss Dingley at 291 Court Street, Auburn.

NORTH BUCKFIELD.

Mrs. Vernal Bates of West Sumner has been at R. Monk's visiting.

Henry Heald has been home sick. He is better at this writing.

Rollin Stetson and wife of Sumner were at her father's Sunday, the 8th.

Aunt Arvilla Record is quite sick at D. L. Farrar's.

Bad colds are prevailing at this writing.

Horsemen are buying lots of horses in our town and still there are more for sale.

A. T. Maxim of Paris and some strangers were in our place the 11th after horses. Mr. Maxim seems to be very much interested in the business.

EAST HEBRON.

Rev. R. Minard has come to this place to assist Rev. C. T. Keene in holding a series of meetings.

Mellen Snell died Wednesday morning after an illness of eight or nine months. Mr. Snell leaves a large circle of mourning friends and his neighbors deeply regret their loss.

The grange fair was a success, clearing $17.05.

Willie Keene is getting ready to try maple syrup making.

Mrs. Lizzie Merrill is visiting her parents at Auburn.

Cyrus Ramsdell has sold his Baby Dean filly to Connecticut parties for $225.

The farmers in this vicinity will plant the larger part of their sweet corn for the Auburn factories.

Miss Lizzie Marshall is visiting her brother, R. C. Marshall, at Bangor.

Willie B. Ramsdell is quite sick with pneumonia.

Roy Pearl of Turner is to work for J. A. and F. E. Whitney this season.

EAST PERU.

Charles DeShon died on the 3d inst. and his burial was postponed from Friday till Sunday on account of that big storm. Elder Carver of Dixfield attended the funeral.

Albert DeShon and wife of Lewiston are in town. He is going to do some painting of houses before he returns.

We have a variety of weather since March came—first a blizzard so that we did not get any mail one day, then a big thaw.

PERU.

Will Jackson of Lewiston is visiting at Howard Turner's.

Rev. Windsor Wyman made a short visit to his father, E. S. Wyman.

Mrs. Elizabeth Barrows, widow of the late James Barrows, is sick with kidney trouble. Dr. Coolidge of Canton is attending her.

Russell Newton of Bowdoinham made a short visit in town.

BYRON.

Jesse Reed landed 11,300 feet of spruce in five loads over a four-mile mountain road with one pair of horses.

We have a lady in town who claims when she breaks a plate or platter, that pounding up the fragments for the hens increases the flow of eggs enough to replace the crockery! Her husband is skeptical on the point.

Charles Mardin gathers from $1.50 to $2 worth of gum per day off logs at Staples' landing.

H.

Discouraging week for our loggers, one day, hard snow storm, one so cold, with wind blowing so hard men could not work, and two of slush.

George B. Staples has made us a long visit (for him) of two days and given the boys an example of good (?) teamstership by driving one trip. Result: fun for the boys and a sweaty team stuck fast at "Dead Horse Hill."

Two teamsters left their teams on descending road to go to the relief of another team, and the near team by some means got started, the heavy load shoving the horses on to the forward team, doubling the horses up in such a manner that if another teamster hadn't arrived and cut the harnesses, a serious loss of horse flesh might have resulted.

E. Record of Livermore has been in town, bringing A. Dwellie to mark a million feet of spruce, bought of the Oxford Lumber Co. for pulp.

A new method of mending rents in clothing was inaugurated at the logging camp on a late stormy day. Viz. spread the patch with a coating of rosin and grease, while warm, and apply to the rent, without removing the garment from the person. For nervous subjects, it needs two strong lads to hold them over the "deacon's seat" to put a smooth patch on seat of pants. When the rent is large, grease applied to the skin prevents sticking. Stanley and Abbott are proprietors of the invention.

STOW.

Mrs. Nathan Whitney is one of Stow's smart old ladies. She is 80 years of age. After walking a mile to her neighbor's house, she drew in a web for a carpet and wove 1 1-4 yards and finished her work at half past three. She has been living alone most of the time this winter. She has had her home in Stow about 50 years.

It is quite sickly around here.

Mr. Wilbur Whitaker is moving to Fryeburg this week.

School closes this week in District No. 2, taught by Miss Marion Stearns.

EAST BROWNFIELD.

Maple syrup time, but as yet few have made a beginning.

Mrs. V. R. Stickney continues very sick.

Whitman Stickney has returned from Redstone, N. H.

The Y. P. S. C. E. are planning to hold meetings during the week in different places. The evening meetings held by them are well attended and interesting.

ALUMINUM.

Did you ever see any of this wonderful metal? Almost as light as wood and strong as steel, will not tarnish under any circumstances. I have some three-inch rules of this metal, the handiest tool for the vest pocket ever seen, weight less than a five-cent nickel. Will send one to any address on receipt of 25 cents in coin or two-cent stamps

DO YOU WANT A NEW PIANO

We unhesitatingly pronounce the

Ivers & Pond PIANO

the finest and most reliable in the world. Five newly patented inventions used in these pianos only.

Call at our store and examine the new **Soft Stop** which saves pianos from wear while practising and makes tone inaudible to all outside of room. A wonderful invention.

W. J. WHEELER,
South Paris, Maine.

FRAZER AXLE GREASE

BEST IN THE WORLD.

Its wearing qualities are unsurpassed, actually outlasting two boxes of any other brand. Not affected by heat. ASK FOR FRAZER'S. GET THE GENUINE.

FOR SALE BY DEALERS GENERALLY. tyr

COLDS, COUGHS, CROUP — A SAFE AND SURE REMEDY FOR THROAT AND LUNG DISEASES, INFLUENZA, CONSUMPTION

WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY

FOWLE'S PILE and HUMOR CURE

cures Piles, Scrofula, Eczema, Salt Rheum, Cancerous and Ulcerated Sores, and all Diseases of the Skin and Blood. $1, a bottle, or five for $2.50. HENRY A. FOWLE, Boston.

JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT

Unlike Any Other.

As much

For INTERNAL as EXTERNAL use.

Many people do not know this.

The Most Wonderful Family Remedy Ever Known.

It positively cures Diphtheria, Croup, Asthma, Bronchitis, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Hoarseness, Coughs, Whooping Cough, Catarrh, Chilblains, Burns, Diarrhœa, Sciatica, Lame Back and Soreness in Body or Limbs. Also a Infallible Remedy in Cuts, Burns, and Bruises. Relieves all Cramps and Chills like magic. Price, 25cts. post paid; 4 bottles, $1. Express prepaid. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

MUNN & CO. SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN AGENCY for PATENTS

A pamphlet of information and abstract of the laws, showing How to Obtain Patents, Caveats, Trade Marks, Copyrights, and Other Business in the Patent Office, sent free. Address MUNN & CO., 361 Broadway, New York.

ELY'S CREAM BALM CATARRH

CLEANSES THE Nasal Passages, Allays Pain and Inflammation, Heals the Sores, Restores the Sense of Taste, and Smell.

TRY THE 50 CTS. CURE. HAY-FEVER

A particle is applied into each nostril and is agreeable. Price 50 cents at druggists; by mail registered, 60 cents.

ELY BROTHERS, 56 Warren Street, New York.

E. V. WALKER, Agent, Oxford, Maine.

Agents Wanted.

A BOOK for the Times. THE ADVANCING KINGDOM OR THE WONDERS OF Foretold History.

Illustrated superbly, containing 750 pages, 200 Engravings. Sells rapidly. Unprecedented opportunity for Ladies and Gentlemen to obtain profitable employment. Send for ILLUSTRATED descriptive Circulars and Terms to Agents. Address, AMERICAN PUBLISHING CO., Hartford, Conn., Boston, Mass., St. Louis. Mention this paper.

SULPHUR BITTERS

The Greatest Blood Purifier KNOWN.

This Great German Medicine is the cheapest and best. 128 doses of SULPHUR BITTERS for $1.00, less than one cent a dose. It will cure the worst cases of skin disease, from a common pimple on the face to that awful disease Scrofula. SULPHUR BITTERS is the best medicine to use in all cases of such stubborn and deep seated diseases. Do not throw away your money on trash of doubtful character. Use

BLUE PILLS or mercury, they are dead by. Place your trust in SULPHUR BITTERS, the purest and best medicine ever made. Your Kidneys are out of order. Use Sulphur Bitters!

Is your Tongue Coated with a yellow sticky substance? Is your Back aching? Are you unable to walk, or breath full and are flat on your back, offensive? Your Liver is out of order? Don't wait until you get some at once, it stomach is out of order? Don't wait until you are sick, no matter what ails you, use Sulphur Bitters and it will cure you. Sulphur Bitters is the Invalid's Friend.

SULPHUR BITTERS Immediately. The young, the aged and infirm, Is your Urine high colored and scanty? Are you suffering any more? Are your bowels costive? Are you low-spirited and weak, or suffering from the excesses of youth? If so, SULPHUR BITTERS will cure you.

Don't Wait! Don't Wait! Don't Wait!

Send 3 2-cent stamps to A. P. Ordway & Co., Boston, Mass., for best medical work published.

HOW'S THIS ?

ALMOST everybody, we might say everybody wants something from a hardware store occasionally. We are laboring through hot weather and cold to meet this want as it should be met. We carry the largest stock of General Hardware, Stoves, Iron and Steel, etc. in Oxford County, and believe we can make it an object for you to come to us when in want of anything in our line.

Richardson & Kenney,

South Paris. - - Maine.

Doors, Windows and Blinds,

—AT—

C. L. Hathaway's,

NORWAY.

Mrs. F. A. WENTWORTH.

FEMALE TROUBLES

Complicated with Liver and Kidney Diseases, Cured by Dana's Sarsaparilla after the most noted Physicians failed.

WASHINGTON MILLS, ME., Dec. 10, '87.

Gentlemen:—For the last three years I have been suffering from a complication of Diseases, and have employed the most skilful physicians in the state, having been treated by local physicians at home and by physicians in Portland, Me. **All my physicians told me my disease was so complicated, I could never get well.** And certainly all my medical treatment gave me no relief. **I had no appetite,** bowels in a bad state, **female trouble** combined with liver and kidney trouble, so said my physicians. I grew so weak and reduced, I had done **no work for one year,** when Dr. Tribou, my physician, at the time, advised me to try DANA'S SARSAPARILLA.

Soon after trying it I began to feel a wonderful change. I commenced to gain in flesh and strength, and after taking three bottles I felt like another person. **I now feel well and strong and am able to do all the work in a family of eight.** I feel that I owe my health entirely to the **wonderful curative power** of DANA'S SARSAPARILLA. I prize this valuable remedy highly, and shall earnestly recommend it to all the afflicted.

I cannot say too much in its praise for all it has done for me.

Very truly yours,
MRS. F. A. WENTWORTH.

Over three years have elapsed since the above letter was written. Mrs. Wentworth takes three or four bottles of DANA'S SARSAPARILLA each year to help Nature repel any attack upon the citadel of Health, and as a result, enjoys heaven's richest blessing—**Good Health.**

"Go thou and do likewise." Suffering one, remember we GUARANTEE A CURE. Will you try it?

Dana Sarsaparilla Co., Belfast, Me.

Portland & Boston Steamers.

FIRST-CLASS STEAMERS of this **OLD RELIABLE LINE** leave Franklin Wharf, Portland, every evening (Sundays excepted), at 7 o'clock, arriving in Boston in season for earliest trains for Lowell, Lynn, Waltham, Lawrence, Providence, Worcester, Fall River, Springfield, New York, etc. Through Tickets to Boston at principal R. R. Stations.

J. F. LISCOMB, *Gen. Agent.*

W. J. WHEELER,

South Paris.

Pianos and Organs, Piano Stools, Covers

—AND—

Instruction Books.

—AT—

Reasonable Prices.

Is Your Watch Running!

If not take it to **PIERCE'S** at South Paris, where all work is finished in a workmanlike manner. Watches, Clocks and Jewelry will be neatly and promptly repaired.

J. PIERCE,

South Paris. Maine.

STATE OF MAINE.

OXFORD, ss.

TAKEN this fourth day of March, A. D. 1891, on execution dated February third, A. D. 1891, issued on a judgment rendered by the Supreme Court for the County of York, at the term thereof begun and held on the first Tuesday of January, A. D. 1891, to wit, on the third day of February, A. D. 1891, in favor of Edgar F. Gentleman, of Parsonsfield, in the County of York and State of Maine, against Alonzo Day of Porter, in the County of Oxford and State of Maine, for twenty-five dollars, debt or damage, and twelve dollars and four cents, costs of suit, and will be sold at public auction, at Hotel Manwaudo, in the town of Porter, in said County of Oxford, to the highest bidder, on Saturday, the eleventh day of April, A. D. 1891, at two of the clock in the afternoon, the following described real estate, and all the right, title and interest which the said Alonzo Day has in and to the same, or had on the twenty-seventh day of September, A. D. 1890, at two o'clock in the afternoon, the time when the same was attached on the writ in the same suit, to wit: A parcel of land in the town of Brownfield, bounded and described as follows: Commencing at the spruce corner at the southeast corner of lot No. 29 in C range, and on range line, thence running north eleven degrees east, eleven rods, to the road leading by the Daniel Sargent house lot, now or formerly owned by Richard Sargent, Jr.; thence on said road northwesterly about sixty rods to a large stone and a hemlock stump standing some six rods northeasterly of where a small house formerly stood, built by Solomon Hartford, Jr.; thence south fifty-two degrees, four rods, to a stake and stones; thence north eleven degrees west, forty-two rods, to land formerly owned by Ezra Davis and to Clark line; thence south about eighty degrees east, forty-five rods, to the first named bound, containing nine acres more or less.

Dated at Porter, March 4, A. D. 1891.

ISAAC M. STANLEY, Deputy Sheriff.

No. 16.—A Triangle.

```
                1
             12 2
          13   3
       14      4
    15         5
 16            6
17             7
18             8
19             9
20            10
21            11
```

1, a Roman numeral; 12 to 2, a pronoun; 13 to 3, arista; 14 to 4, prosecuted judicially; 15 to 5, the joint on which a door turns; 16 to 6, one of two kingdoms into which the Jewish nation was divided on the death of Solomon; 17 to 7, pernicious; 18 to 8, overshoes; 19 to 9, a town of Central Africa in Soudan; 20 to 10, to expand; 21 to 11, a treaty.

From 1 to 11, the name of a famous musical composer born on Feb. 6, 1809. From 12 to 21, the name of a great and good man.

No. 17.—Rebus with Double Answer.

The beginning and the end of the ship's last voyage.

No. 18.—Charade.

A small lump of clay,
And a box to hold grain,
Will give you a rustic,
Uncultured and vain.

No. 19.—Combination Puzzle.

```
  1 2 3 4
O O O 1 2 3 4
  5 6 7 8
```

The foundation word represented by the three circles at the left is a prefix meaning "against," or a word meaning "to study." Join this to the upper four at the right, meaning "the shelter preferred by nomadic tribes," and have "satisfaction." Join the same three to the second four, meaning "proof," and have "strife." Join the same three to the third four, meaning "a passage in the Scriptures selected by the preacher," and have "series or order of discourse." The 8's duplicate each other, the only change being represented by the circle o.

No. 20.—Word Syncopations.

Take an urchin from artlessly and leave artful.

Take a chariot of war from frightening and leave to carol.

Take adroitness from moving suddenly and leave to pain acutely.

Take to sam up from encumbered and leave a winter vehicle.

Take to fasten from an old fashioned musical instrument and leave to regulate.

Take an era from things added and leave aids to.

Take to wander from the truth from a boat and leave a question.

Take a metal vessel from a glass vessel and leave to hinder.

Take to petition from packings of hemp and leave traps.

The words removed consist of three letters each; the central letters of these words, read downward, will spell the name given to a certain festival.

No. 21.—A Star.

1. A letter. 2. A pronoun. 3. A person who winds silk. 4. One of the periods of the tertiary strata. 5. Unites firmly. 6. To direct what is to be written. 7. Stopping. 8. A printer's measure. 9. A letter.

No. 22.—Corn of Various Kinds.

1. What kind of corn has four feet?
2. What corn grows on trees?
3. What corn (besides toe corn) is undesirable?
4. What kind of corn do carpenters raise?
5. What corn signifies that there is plenty more?
6. What kind of corn is musical?
7. What corn is planted in an angle?

Geographical Absurdities.

If you should wish to go to Rome,
And you Havana friends there,
Pen's these lines while yet at home
And find the Rhodes that end there.

Do just as Siam wont to do,
And if a Lake Huron,
Don't Scilly be and Racine go,
Or Rouen you'll be sure on.

But Wyoming in with the crowd?
Keep with your little party.
There's Mrs. Ipp—rather loud—
And Callie Fornia, hearty.

And Minnie Sota, too, I see,
Likewise her friend, Miss Ouri;
Six others will make ten, I see—
A rather crowd than poorer.

Iowa frank a: cingy
For leaving out the Cracow,
I'll Russia round, but if you see
Her, I ask Utah say so.

Just hear the sailors' yo-he-ho;
If Idaho I'd said 'em;
Iowa sailor, as you know—
Good Lackawa till I've paid 'em.

Once more than that, but then,
O' Corsican repay it;
This Spain-ful sense of debt again,
Texas some time to say it.

—Good Housekeeping.

Key to the Puzzler.

No. 9.—A Letter Enigma: Valentine.

No. 10.—A Diamond:

```
      M
     MAP
    PANED
   PENCIL
  MANIFOLD
 MANIPULATED
  PECULATED
    DILATOR
     LATER
      RED
       D
```

No. 11.—Charade: Buckwheat.

No. 12.—A Rhomboid and Word Square:

```
P O W E R      D A W N
N O V E L      A M R I
N E V E R      W R E N
R E N E W      N I N E
L A D E N
```

No. 13.—A Word Dwindle: 1. Fragments. 2. Garments. 3. Magnets. 4. Gasmen. 5. Games. 6. Game. 7. Gem. 8. Em. 9. M.

No. 14—Hidden Flowers: Pansy, rose, violet, goldenrod, tansy, pink, forget-me-not, daisy.

No. 15.—Transpositions: 1. Withe, waite. 2. What, thaw. 3. Leap, peal. 4. Lead, deal. 5. Sherd, shred.

A man never fully realizes the wealth of information he doesn't possess till his first child begins to ask questions.

DANA'S "ABSOLUTELY CURES DISEASE!"

"Does the cellar leak?" "No. It's had two feet of water in it ever since I've been in the house. Not a drop has got out."

For croup and whooping cough, mothers try Johnson's Anodyne Liniment used internally.

Husband—"I don't think much of that Bramble girl." Wife—"Well, you had better not."

DANA'S SARSAPARILLA CURES!

There's something about a pretty woman that one cannot a'mire. Of course we refer to the other fellows.

HOW IT WAS!

At the battle of Gettysburg I was shot through the left leg and was sent to the hospital. The army surgeons relieved me but pronounced my case incurable. It discharged pieces of bone, and for years I have suffered with a running sore. I tried everything which my limited means would allow, and experienced no relief until I tried Sulphur Bitters. I am now almost well and shall continue their use.—Old Soldier.

"How pleasant that lady looks! She seems perfectly happy." "Yes; she must either have found pure religion in her own heart or the seeds of sin in the heart of one of her neighbors."

53 Premiums given away to every person using SAVENA. See pamphlet in each package SAVENA. Sold by all grocers.

HOMEMAKERS' COLUMN.

Correspondence on topics of interest to the ladies is solicited. Address: Editor HOMEMAKERS' COLUMN, Oxford Democrat, Paris, Maine.

HINTS TO THE LADIES.

The long winter evenings give ladies ample time for making all manner of prettiness for their homes. When the spring is with us we long to be out of doors as much as possible, and grudge giving overmuch time to needlework. So let us make our knick-nacks now, even though we may have to stow them away for a while. The "crescent" has, of late, had to give way to the "heart." Every bagatelle with which we deck our rooms, that can be formed by any powers into the shape of a heart, is so formed, and finds favor with purchasers. Here is a pincushion that we can make in readiness for spring. The cushion is cut heart-shape, with a hole in the centre, and is covered with vieux rose plush, with underpart of satin. Round the heart, where the join comes, a frill of fine cream lace is sewn on. The centre-hole is fitted with a bag of vieux rose satin, that draws up full with a heading and stands several inches above the cushion. Into this a scent-bottle with well-cut stopper is slipped. A narrow gold fringe may be substituted for the lace if preferred, and towards the point of the heart the owner's monogram can be worked in gold thread or cord. The old-fashioned square pincushions are extremely popular once more—just the square pieces of material stitched together, and the cushion, filled with bran, put in before the last side is sewn up. Some of these are so plainly made up that the joins at the sides are not hidden at all. Silk cords are often not used, which is rather a pity, as they made a pretty finish to those we remember to have seen when children. Pieces of real old brocade answer splendidly for covering them, and they take little material, so odd bits can be utilized. Some odd little pincushions are made like sacks, and out of the top appear tiny men's and women's heads, cleverly modeled. The most taking is the Japanese lady, which is really pretty. They would readily sell at bazars. The sacks are made of printed flowered silks.

At present, satchels are in favor, and photo-panels, for hanging on walls, are being made in the same shape; but these, of course, are single. They are oblong, and are made of satin, or of a combination of two materials. For instance, one can be made of reseda satin and of white and gold brocade, after this fashion: The oblong panel will be covered first with reseda satin, arranged in folds across it. Into these folds the photos are slipped; they must not be too deep, as we do not want to hide more of the photo than we can help. Three folds are sufficient for an ordinary-sized panel. One-half of the oblong is then covered with a corner-piece of white and gold brocade, which forms a pocket for more photos. This reaches from the left-hand top corner to the the lower right-hand one, and may be embroidered with a spray of flowers. It is hung up by ribbons attached to the top corners, and pompons can be added along the top and bottom, which takes off somewhat the severity of the plain panel.

A large double sachet is made out of an oblong piece of material folded towards the centre so as to form two pockets, but these are narrowed off in the making, and the ends are not so wide as the openings of the pockets. This is scarcely an improvement on the straight ones, but novelty must be considered. The shoes are draped with printed chiffon, which is drawn from the openings to the ends in long folds; here it finishes off with a double heading drawn up tightly, and standing out at each corner. The lining is satin, whilst the sachet is of self-colored brocade or of plain silk, with embroidery just in the centres of pockets.

For holding cut-flowers, rustic wooden sabots are now made like the logs fashionable last year, tinted green to imitate moss-grown logs. These are hung up with ribbons to match the flowers. They must be classed under the heading "Things to buy," for, beyond decorating them with ribbons, we can do nothing towards their manufacture. Colored bronze flowers, animals, and birds are all the rage still, and novelties in this line are being constantly introduced. The animals stand first in excellence, the modeling of many of them being most artistic. As a matter of course, the flowers are somewhat heavy, hard, and formal; still, they do not look amiss on black panels for hanging on walls, and they afford bits of bright coloring where they may be needed. But when it comes to a lady on horseback, there we draw the line; this is not a subject fitted for ornamental purposes, considering that the equestrienne is dressed in the latest fashion. Tall flower-glasses are set in rustic stands, decorated with colored metal flowers and foliage.

Charming is the fine enameled jewelry that is fast coming into vogue after years of banishment. We are not speaking of the violets, heartsease, harebells, and so on, that are so generally admired as brooches, lace and hair pins, but the fine enameled gold necklets, brooches, and pendants that were worn generations back. Those fortunate enough to have some belonging to ancestresses may be congratulated on their possessions. The gold setting is often a marvel of delicate workmanship. Bracelets composed of a narrow band of different colored enamels set in gold are well worn. Exceedingly fine chains, too, for neck, with pendant, such as a heart encrusted with diamonds, we notice are appearing once more. Watch chains are studded with pearls, and there is a rumor that long chains are being brought forward again after long disuse.

AFTER THE HOLIDAYS.

The holiday festivities well over and neglected work attended to, there is a lull in the house. Too early for spring sewing or cleaning; too inclement for shopping or visiting, this month is the most appropriate of all months for fancy work. All material is lower priced now than before the holidays, and it is an excellent opportunity to prepare next year's Christmas gifts as well as replace any soiled or worn fancy articles in one's own home. The remembrance of attractive offerings received by friends is still fresh in our minds, and we can imitate and improve many novelties.

One of the most charming handkerchief cases presented last Christmas was formed of two squares of chamois pinked all around. In one corner was printed a spray of forget-me-nots, and the word "Mouchoir" in unique letters. Each square was lined with satin, joined and closed by means of ribbon bows. The upper corner on the outside was turned back to admit the handkerchief. This case was designed by a French lady who possessed the bewitching grace of that nation.

A handkerchief sachet was composed of red and old gold half-inch ribbon. The ribbon was woven like the Kindergarten gifts. After the scented cotton was placed within, the ends were brought together and it was overhanded on three sides.

A suspended pincushion was made from a medium-sized Jananese basket, or bird's nest. The top is open and the braid is removed from the other end. The nest being filled with cotton both openings are covered with satin, forming a novel pincushion. Ribbon is placed around the middle of the basket, and it is suspended by a long loop.

A charming shoe-button case was made by investing in a pair of tiny bronze shoes, which formed the foundation of two presents. Bronze silk or satin was gathered at the top of the shoe and a bronze ribbon was inserted in a casing. The shoe contained a tiny pincushion for large needles, thread, wax and shoe buttons—the accessories that are *non est* when a button is missing.

Although one cannot gather milkweed pods in February, one can use forethought and procure a supply in their season. White illusion bags filled with this fairy substance and tied at the top with white ribbon, make a dainty gift.

Drapes of China silk, with bands of bolting cloth inserted at each end, will be as acceptable next year as this. The neatest way of joining silk and bolting is with a feather stitch. A graceful spray of pinks painted on the bolting cloth, and silk tassels on the end complete an elegant scarf.

In fashioning these fancy articles the "dull season" will pass quickly as a dream, and one will have the satisfaction of possessing a nucleus of presents the coming Christmas.

A Calamity.

Mr. Bingo—I have terrible news. While I was in Cousin Flint's hardware store today getting a mouse trap he said that the old homestead had been burned, your Aunt Maria had perished in the flames, and the children were coming down to the city to live with us.

Mrs. Bingo—You don't mean to tell me that you have seen a mouse in this house.—New York Sun.

THE MAD KING.

Rumors that the mad King of Bavaria is falling rapidly in physical health have directed attention recently on the Continent to the habits and misfortunes of the most pitiable of European sovereigns. The violence of his insanity and its curious manifestations are being discussed at length by dailies outside of Germany, and all the details of his wild, dark life are being laid bare with relentlessly painstaking care.

King Otto of Bavaria is the brother of King Louis of Bavaria, who drowned himself several years ago. He is of the same remarkable physical development as his dead brother, tall and broad and muscular, with a tremendous reach of arm and an immense stride. His hair is long, shaggy, and uncombed. His unkept beard reaches below his waist. He dresses in a black broadcloth, of which he gets a new suit twice every week, for he has a strong idiosyncracy against napkins and towels and handkerchiefs and he refuses to carry or use any of them, and makes his coat tails and sleeves do for all three. Only occasionally, when his sixty-year-old nurse, Mme. Marie, approaches him, does a gleam of intelligence cross his blurred features. Sometimes he devotes hours to disjointed discussions of all sorts of questions with purely imaginary persons. He then gesticulates furiously, and often becomes beside himself with rage over the supposititious obtuseness of his opponent. Twice weekly he sinks into a state of almost unbroken lethargy. During such a fit he smokes cigarettes constantly, sometimes as many as a hundred a day. With every cigarette he uses a whole box of matches, for, after having lighted his cigarette, he carefully sets off with the match all the other matches. A dozen times or more he has just escaped burning himself to death.

All the doors of the magnificent apartments of the crazy monarch are on the ground floor, and the doors in them are always kept wide open, because a closed door throws the King into the wildest fury. He throws himself on the door with all violence, and without touching knob or latch beats it with his fists and head, and finally falls on the floor before it in a fit. The King refuses to go near water, even for the purpose of bathing. He is terrified by the sight of an open carriage, and cannot by any means be persuaded to enter one for a drive. At table King Otto eats pretty much as other high-born Germans do. He consumes vast quantities of champagne and speaks during the meal only to shout for more wine.

The physician in charge of the royal invalid is Dr. Grashey, director of the largest insane asylum in Bavaria. He is assisted by two physicians, Snell and Ranke, who pass alternate weeks at the castle in observing the patient's behavior and symptoms.

Two little Eighth Ward girls were preparing valentines for the mail. "Horrors!" exclaimed one; "here's 5 cents marked on this and I haven't a bit of rubber!" "That's nothing," replied her worldly wise companion; "can't you put a 2 before the 5?"

Bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, vanish before the magic power of Johnson's Anodyne Liniment.

Teacher—"What is the plural of child?" Tommy—"Twins, I suppose."

Even the author of "Beautiful Snow," might get a surfeit this winter.

DANA'S IS "GUARANTEED" TO CURE!

The man who is not willing to take off his coat to help answer his own prayer never creates very much of a stir in heaven.

Nervous headache, wakefulness, relieved by inhaling Johnson's Anodyne Liniment freely.

"Why, darling, what are you doing with that string?" "Tying it on my finger, mamma, so 'f I forget anything I'll be sure and 'member it."

TRY DANA'S SARSAPARILLA!

Parliamentary. "I rise for information," said the Freshman at the debating club. "Glad you did," replied the president; you need it."

I have been a great sufferer from catarrh for over ten years; had it very bad, could hardly breathe. Some nights I could not sleep and had to walk the floor. I purchased Ely's Cream Balm and am using it freely, it is working a cure surely. I have advised several friends to use it, and with happy results in every case. It is the medicine above all others for catarrh, and it is worth its weight in gold. I thank God that I have found a remedy I can use with safety and does all that is claimed for it. It is curing my deafness.—B. W. Sperry, Hartford, Conn.

"I wish I had his happy disposition. He never seems to have anything on his mind at all. "But you should remember that there is not room for much."

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

The special announcement which appeared in our columns some time since, announcing a special arrangement with Dr. B. J. Kendall Co., of Enosburgh Falls, Vt., publishers of "A Treatise on the Horse and his Diseases," whereby our subscribers were enabled to obtain a copy of that valuable work free by sending their address to B. J. Kendall Co. (and enclosing a two-cent stamp for mailing same) is renewed for a limited period. We trust all will avail themselves of the opportunity of obtaining this valuable work. To every lover of the horse it is indispensable, as it treats in a simple manner all the diseases which afflict this noble animal. Its phenomenal sale throughout the United States and Canada, make it standard authority. Mention this paper when sending for "Treatise."

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STATE OF MAINE.

COUNTY OF OXFORD, ss.

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT.

Charles D. Herrick, libelant, vs. Annie Hannaford, alias Annie Herrick.

Libel for divorce inserted in writ of attachment. Date of writ January 26th, 1891.

Ad damnum, $100. Returnable at February term, 1891.

To the Hon. Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court next to be holden at Paris in and for the County of Oxford, on the second Tuesday of February, A. D. 1891. Respectfully represents Charles D. Herrick of Paris, aforesaid, that he was married to the said Annie Hannaford at said Paris, by Hon. Geo. A. Wilson, a Justice of the Peace, on the—day of—A. D. 1886, supposing her to be a widow, that your said Petitioner has always conducted himself toward his said supposed wife as a true and faithful husband, that he lived with her as his wife till the 9th day of July, A. D. 1886, that the said Annie Hannaford deceived your libelant by representing herself a widow, when in fact she had a husband living by name of Wm. Hannaford, that the said Annie left your libelant on the 9th day of July, A. D. 1886, and has not returned. He therefore prays that a decree may be granted him setting aside and annulling said marriage which was illegal, or a divorce be decreed, and as in duty bound will ever pray, and he further avers that the present residence of said Annie Hannaford is not known to him and cannot be ascertained by reasonable diligence.

Paris, Feb. 9, 1891.

CHARLES D. HERRICK.

STATE OF MAINE.

OXFORD, ss.

Subscribed and sworn to. Before me,

JAMES S. WRIGHT,
Justice of the Peace.

STATE OF MAINE.

OXFORD, ss.

Supreme Judicial Court, February term A. D. 1891.

Charles D. Herrick, libelant, vs. Annie Hannaford, alias Annie Herrick. And now it appearing to the court that the said Libelee is not an inhabitant of this State and has no tenant, agent or attorney therein, and that she has no notice of the pendency of this libel.

IT IS ORDERED BY THE COURT, that the said libelant notify the libelee of the pendency thereof by causing an abstract of writ and copy of this libel with this order of court thereon, to be published three weeks successively in the Oxford Democrat, a paper printed in Paris in said County, the last publication to be thirty days at least before the next term of said court, to be holden at Paris, aforesaid, on the first Tuesday of May next, to the end that the said libelee may then and there appear at said court and show cause, if any she has, why the prayer of said libelant should not be granted.

Attest. ALBERT S. AUSTIN, Clerk.

A true abstract of writ and copy of libel and order of court thereon.

Attest:—ALBERT S. AUSTIN, Clerk.

J. S. WRIGHT,
Solicitor for libelant.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Hon. Judge of Probate for the County of Oxford, on the third Tuesday of November, A. D. 1890, commissioners to receive and examine the claims of creditors against the estate of Louisa Cummings, late of Albany, in said county, deceased, represented insolvent, hereby give notice that six months from the date of said appointment are allowed to said creditors in which to present and prove their claims, and that they will be in session at the following places and times for the purpose of receiving the same, viz.: at the office of R. A. Frye, in Bethel, in said county, on Saturday, the second day of May, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and on Saturday the sixteenth day of May, at two o'clock in the afternoon, A. D. 1891.

Dated this twenty-sixth day of February, A. D. 1891.

RICHARD A. FRYE, JOHN B. CHAPMAN, } Commissioners.

REWARD.

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONERS OF GAME AND THE FISHERIES, BANGOR, ME., January 26, 1891.

To any Fish or Game Warden, or any other person who shall cause the final conviction of any person found guilty of violation of any of the Game Laws (Chap. 30, R. S.) the undersigned will, until further notice, allow a sum equal to one-half of the fine imposed in each case; certificate of the justice imposing the final sentence to be the evidence of who is entitled thereto.

E. M. STILLWELL, HENRY O. STANLEY, } Comm'rs of Game and the Fisheries.

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